

THE HISTORY OF
THE SOVIET BLOC
1945–1991

A Chronology

PART I
1945–1952

SECOND, ENLARGED EDITION

EDITED BY
CSABA BÉKÉS

Cold War History Research Center
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At the Cold War History Research Center we have been working on an extensive chronology of the Soviet Bloc for a number of years. The entries were compiled using mainly secondary sources so far, nevertheless, we are determined to further improve and continuously extend the chronology by including information from archival documents too. The chronology also presents data dealing with Austria, Finland and Yugoslavia. Although these countries were obviously not part of the Soviet Bloc, we still wanted to involve them since they maintained special relations with the Soviet Union and its East Central European allies.

Hungary – 1945 (HC)

According to the Central Statistical Office, the territory of Hungary is 93,011 square kilometers, its population is 9,453,087 people.

Bulgaria – 1945 (PLC)

The Patriarch of Constantinople recognizes the Bulgarian exarchates established in 1870.

January 1945

Yugoslavia – January 1945 (ACY)

Bishop Serafim of Raška-Prizren, who was interned by the Albanians in Tirana, dies.

Bulgaria / Yugoslavia / Soviet Union – January 1945 (BST)

The Bulgarians and the Yugoslavs are invited to Moscow for Soviet arbitration.

Hungary / Germany – January 1, 1945 (HC)

The German army launches an attack to free the forces enclosed in Budapest.

Poland – January 1, 1945 (HDP)

The Polish Committee on National Liberation declares itself the provisional government.

Hungary / Germany – January 2, 1945 (REV)

The German army in North Transdanubia makes a counterattack on the blockade of Budapest, but the attack is pushed back on January 13.

Hungary – January 4, 1945 (HC)

The 14th and the 15th edicts (on reorganization of public administration and setting up committees to certify state employees) of the Provisional National Government are published.

Hungary – January 4, 1945 (REV)

A government order is issued reorganizing the public administration and setting up screening committees to examine the wartime conduct of state employees.

Poland / Soviet Union – January 5, 1945 (PLC)

The Soviet Union (again) recognizes the provisional communist Polish government of the Lublin Committee. As a response, the Western allies confirm that the recognized Polish government is the exiled one in London.

Hungary – January 7, 1945 (HC)

The establishing conference of the National Peasant Party takes place in Debrecen. (chairman Péter Veres, general secretary Ferenc Erdei.) The establishing conference of the Alliance of Hungarian Democratic Youth (MADISZ) takes place in Szeged.

Hungary – January 9, 1945 (HC)

Partisans of Újpest blow up the house of the arrow-cross members and set the prisoners free. The National Board of Szeged orders the installation of the People's Court.

Hungary – January 14, 1945 (HC)

The "Néplap" of Debrecen publishes the proposal of the National Peasant Party about the land reform. (Its main objectives: all lands exceeding the 432 thousand square meters must be expropriated; all lands of the traitor, arrow-cross and Volksbund members must be confiscated. These lands must be divided between the landless and small-land-holder peasants. The reform must be executed by the 1st of October, 1945. For the sake of the smooth process, boards from the representatives of the land demanders must be formed.)

Germany – mid-January, 1945 (HC)

The German attack in the Ardennes, launched on the 16th of December 1944, collapses.

Hungary – January 16, 1945 (HC)

The rebuilding of the Northern Facility of the Hungarian Railroads (MÁV) has begun. Representatives of the National Councils of Kisújszállás, Karcag, Túrkeve, Kenderes, Kunmadaras, Kunhegyes push for land reform with the Prime Minister. The provisional executive committee of the Social-Democratic Party is founded in Budapest (chairman: Bán Antal)

Poland / Soviet Union – January 17, 1945 [PSN, HDP]

The Red Army begins its assault on Warsaw, after waiting since the autumn of 1944.

Poland / Soviet Union – January 17, 1945 (PLC)

The Soviet army occupies Warsaw.

Poland / Soviet Union – January 18, 1945 (PLC)

The Soviet army occupies Krakow (from where German governor general Hans Frank fled just the day before).

Hungary / Germany / Soviet Union – January 18, 1945 (REV)

The Red Army completes the capture of Pest. German engineers blow up the two remaining bridges over the Danube, the Elizabeth and Chain bridges.

Czechoslovakia – January 19, 1945 (PLC)

The Soviet army occupies Kosice (Kassa).

Poland – January 19, 1945 (PSN)

The Polish Home Army is officially dissolved. Many of its officers and soldiers join new underground organizations, primarily *Nie* and Freedom and Independence (WiN).

Hungary / Soviet Union – January 20, 1945 (HC)

Hungary signs the Armistice Agreement with the Allied Powers in Moscow. The Hungarian delegation was led by Minister of Foreign Affairs János Gyöngyösi, the Allied Powers were represented by Marshall K. J. Vorosilov. The main objectives of the armistice: Hungary withdraws its troops and its civil service behind the borders of (31 December) 1937. It joins the fight against Germany with 8 heavy-infantry divisions. It pays \$300 million in war reparations. It disbands all German friendly, Fascist, political, military, paramilitary organizations, and bans anti-Soviet propaganda. For the execution of the objectives, the Allied Control Commission must be set up.

Bulgaria / Hungary / Romania / U.K. / U.S. – January 20, 1945 (LBC)

The United States and Great Britain seek more influence in the operation of the Allied Control Commission in Hungary than those of Romania and Bulgaria. The U.S. and Great Britain succeed in reducing Hungary's reparation payment from \$400 million to \$300 million.

Hungary – January 21, 1945 (HC)

From the representatives of the democratic parties, the National Committee of Budapest is set up. Its chairman is Zoltán Tildy. On its first meeting, János Csorba from the Smallholders Party is nominated for mayor of Budapest, the Communist László Sólyom is nominated for the commander of the police forces.

The National Committee of Budapest appoints Gyula Ortutay to manage the Hungarian news agency (MTI) and The Hungarian Radio Corporation.

The Central Leadership of the Communist Party, and the national leadership of the

Social-democratic Party lay down the conditions of the agreement between the two worker's parties in Debrecen.

Hungary – January 25, 1945 (HC)

The Provisional National Government publishes its 81/1945 decree about the installation of the People's Courts. (The People's Courts are the organizations to convict war criminals)

Hungary – January 26, 1945 (HC)

The Political Committee of the Provisional National Assembly adopts a proposition about setting up a 3-member (Béla Zsedényi, Béla Dálnoki Miklós and Ernő Gerő) National High Council (its assumes some of the head of state's rights)
In the Castle of Buda, gendarmes execute 11 members of the Red Brigade, including Éva Braun and Ferenc Körösi.

Hungary – January 27, 1945 (HC)

The mayor of Budapest orders the clean-up of the city from debris, the immediate removal of all Fascist posters, the burying of human and animal bodies and the collection of the glass shards.
The first concert is held in the (partly) liberated Budapest in the building of the Hungarian Theater.

Poland / Soviet Union – January 27, 1945 (HDP)

The Red Army liberates Auschwitz.

Soviet Union – January 28, 1945 (PLC)

The Red Army occupies Memel/Klaipeda.

Poland / Soviet Union – January 28, 1945 (PLC)

The Soviet troops occupy Katowice.

Soviet Union – January 30, 1945 (PLC)

The Soviet army approaches the Oder.

Hungary – January 28, 1945 (HC)

Smallholders' Party member Imre Oltványi is nominated for the temporary chairman position of the National Bank. He is selected by the National Committee of Budapest. It also entrusts the Social-Democrat József Fischer with the position of chairman of the Board of Communal Work of Budapest.

Hungary – January 30, 1945 (HC)

The Provisional National Government releases a recruiting announcement, calling on the Hungarian people to fight against Fascism.

Hungary – January 31, 1945 (HC)

The National Committee of Budapest orders the establishment of the Medical

Board for the leadership over medical cases. Its range covers the entirety of Greater-Budapest.

Poland / Czechoslovakia – January 31, 1945 (KCA)

Czechoslovakia announces its recognition of the Lublin Committee as Provisional Government in Poland.

February 1945

Hungary – February 1945 (HC)

The National Committee of Budapest establishes the Highest Board of Sports.

Yugoslavia / Trieste / U.K. / U.S. – February, 1945 (LUY)

British Field Marshal Harold R. Alexander arrives in Belgrade for discussions with Tito concerning operations in Yugoslavia. Verbal agreements are reached to permit the Anglo-American forces to temporarily occupy Trieste.

Hungary – February 1, 1945 (HC)

The National Committee of Budapest nominates the board of directors of the State House of Opera (Pál Komáromy, Mihály Székely and Kálmán Nádasdy)

Bulgaria – February 1, 1945 (KCA)

Three former Regents of the country, including Prince Kyrill, are executed along with other former government officials.

Poland – February 1, 1945 (PLC)

The Lublin government moves to Warsaw.

Poland / Czechoslovakia – February 1, 1945 (KCA)

The Polish Government in London breaks relations with the Czechoslovak Government, but states that it still hopes to establish close cooperation with Czechoslovakia in the future.

Bulgaria – February 2, 1945 (PLC)

In Sofia, 96 defendants are executed out of the 162 “war criminals” sentenced to death during the staged trials in January.

Hungary – February 2, 1945 (HC)

The Red Army headquarters orders 400 tons of food supplies to the starving population of Budapest.

Hungary – February 2, 1945 (REV)

The Political Police Department (PRO) at the Budapest Police Headquarters of the Hungarian State Police starts to work under communist Gábor Péter. An equivalent department of the Provincial Police Headquarters is formed under András Tömpe on February 26.

Soviet Union – February 2, 1945 (PLC)

The Moscow synod (opened January 31) chooses Aleksii as the Russian patriarch (after the death of Sergei in 1944).

Hungary – February 3, 1945 (HC)

Marshall Vorosilov, head of the Allied Control Commission, arrives in Debrecen. The People's Court holds its first trial in Budapest. The first verdict - death by hanging - is publicly executed the following day at Oktogon Square in Budapest.

Soviet Union / U.K. / U.S. / France / Germany / Poland / Yugoslavia – February 4-11, 1945 (HC/PLC/REV)

The Conference of Yalta. British Prime Minister W. Churchill, President of the United States F.D. Roosevelt, and the Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Soviet Union J. V. Stalin meet in Yalta, on the Crimean Peninsula.

The three allies agree to share power after the capitulation of Germany and to split the country into four occupied zones (giving France an area too). They prepare to set up an Allied Control Council governing Germany based on the principles of “total disarmament, demilitarization and division”. The borders drawn for Poland follow the Curzon line in the East but compensate with territorial gains in the West. The fifth chapter of the signed declaration, the “Declaration on Liberated Europe” allows the European countries to “create democratic institutions of their own choice”. They agree to change the Polish and the Yugoslav governments to be coalitional, and so they revoke their support of the governments-in-exile. The Soviet Union agrees to attack Japan two to three months after the end of the European war. Ukraine and Belorussia are admitted to the U.N., and the 1936 Montreaux Channel agreement is revised.

Poland – February 5, 1945 (PLC)

The Polish communist government announces that it will take over the administration of Silesia and East-Prussia. The expulsion of the German population begins.

Poland / Soviet Union / U.K. / U.S. – February 5, 1945 (LBC)

The Soviet Union establishes diplomatic relations with the Polish Provisional Government of Lublin. In response the U.S. and British governments claim that they continue to recognize the Polish exile government in London.

Hungary – February 6, 1945 (HC)

The 200/1945 order of the Provisional National Government is published. It revokes the “anti-Jewish laws”. The representatives of the Social-Democratic Party and the Hungarian Communist Party strengthen their agreement (adopted on the 10th of October 1944) on cooperation and mutual support.

Romania – February 6, 1945 (HC)

In Romania, the law called the “Statutum of Ethnicities” is released, declaring all

citizens equal regardless of race, language, nationality, and religion. The ethnic minorities can freely use their mother tongue and the public servants cannot be forced to take language tests. Where 30% of the population is from another ethnicity, the orders and proposals must be released in their language as well. They can write their proposals in their language, and bilingual street signs are mandatory.

Soviet Union – February 6, 1945 (PLC)

Soviet troops cross the Oder.

Yugoslavia / Bulgaria – February 7, 1945 (WBA)

A protocol on the provisional regulation of the postal and telecommunication services between the postal administrations of Bulgaria and Yugoslavia is signed in Belgrade.

Poland / Soviet Union – February 8, 1945 (PLC)

In Yalta the temporary Polish-Soviet border is set at the Curzon Line.

Yugoslavia – February 8, 1945 (PLC)

Tito takes Kosovo under military conduct. The Albanian resistance's aim to create Great Albania continues.

Hungary – February 9, 1945 (HC)

The National Committee of Budapest entrusts Jenő Fuchs, 4-times Olympic Champion fencer, the secretary of the Budapest Stock Market to set up the Stock Exchange of Budapest.

Yugoslavia – February 11, 1945 (OEH)

The Yalta Conference of the Allied governments orders the AVNOJ to amplify the Yugoslav government with former members of the Yugoslav parliament, the Skupštin.

Hungary – February 12, 1945 (HC)

From members of the regular army the Volunteer Regiment of Buda is formed. It contains 2,500 soldiers; its commander is Colonel Oszkár Váriházy. The Regiment participates in the siege of the Castle of Buda.

Hungary / Soviet Union – February 13, 1945 (HC/REV)

Fighting from street to street, the forces of the 2nd Ukrainian Front complete the occupation of Budapest. The remaining Hungarian and German defenders attempt a break-out towards the West, but only a few hundred troops reach the German lines. About 25 thousand civilians die in the city. Throughout the fights, 74% of the 40 thousand houses in the capital are damaged and 27% are destroyed or severely damaged. 32,363 homes are completely destroyed or become unlivable. The Red Army carries off prisoners of war and civilians to labor camps.

Poland – February 13, 1945 (LBC)

The Polish Government in exile in London renounces the Yalta Declaration on the Polish situation. They announce that the declaration constitutes the fifth division of Poland and is contradictory to the principles of the Atlantic Charter.

Hungary – February 14, 1945 (HC)

The National Committee of Budapest, referring to the severe health conditions and other medical disabilities that the women had to suffer (Soviet soldiers raped a large number of females), lifts the ban on abortion and makes the operation free, but only if it is performed in medical institutions.

Poland – February 15, 1945 (KCA)

Arciszewski, Polish Prime Minister in London, reaffirms his government's refusal to accept the settlement drawn up in the Crimea.

Hungary – February 16, 1945 (HC)

The Provisional National Government publishes the first list of war criminals (The second list was released a few days later).

Soviet Union / France – February 16, 1945 (KCA)

A 20-year Franco-Russian pact of alliance and non-aggression comes into force.

Czechoslovakia – February 17, 1945 (KCA)

President Benes and the Czechoslovak Government announce that they will soon return home from exile in London when their country is liberated by the Red Army.

Hungary – February 17, 1945 (HC)

The 50 100/1945 order of the Minister of Industry is released. Each factory that employs more than 50 people has to form a Factory Committee.

Hungary – February 18, 1945 (HC)

The Democratic Alliance of the Hungarian Women (MNDSZ) is formed. The “*Népszava*”, the major newspaper of the Hungarian Social-Democratic Party, is reissued. (Editor in chief: Árpád Szakasits)

Hungary – February 19, 1945 (HC)

The leadership of the Social-Democratic Party is reorganized. Chairman: Ferenc Szeder, first secretary: Árpád Szakasits. The members of the Party Committee will be elected at the February 26 party convention.

Bulgaria - February 19, 1945 (OSA)

First measures in the reorganization of education: a decree is promulgated establishing the publishing of textbooks as a state monopoly. Schools become a powerful tool for Communist indoctrination and to foster loyalty to the Soviet Union.

Czechoslovakia – February 21, 1945 (KCA)

President Benes addresses and expresses gratitude to the British people.

Poland – February 23, 1945 (PLC)

Poznan is occupied by the Soviet army.

Hungary – February 23-24, 1945 (HC)

The Central Leadership of the Hungarian Communist Party holds its convention in Budapest. The party leaderships of Debrecen and Budapest merge. General secretary: Mátyás Rákosi.

Germany / Turkey – February 23, 1945 (PLC)

Turkey declares war on Germany on March 1.

Romania – February 24, 1945 (PLC)

Mass demonstrations initiated by the communists contribute to a governmental crisis in Romania.

Yugoslavia – February 24, 1945 (BST)

The presidency of AVNOJ discusses the proportional representation of the federal units in AVNOJ.

Hungary – February 26, 1945 (HC)

The Provisional National Government releases the following three decrees: number 526/1945 (according to the armistice agreement it revokes the First (1938) and Second (1940) Vienna Awards, and revokes all the laws and proposals regarding the border changes); Number 528/1945 (It disbands every Fascist party and organization and all military organizations, including the Party of Hungarian Life, the Party of Hungarian Resurrection, the Arrow-Cross Party, the Alliance of Etelköz, the Hungarian National Socialist Party, the Union of Awakening Hungarians, the MOVE and the Turul Alliance); Number 530/1945 (the surrender and repeal of fascist and anti-soviet printed publications)

Poland – February 28, 1945 (PLC)

A decree is passed, stating that Germans living in the country can only receive Polish citizenship after a process of “verification” (By April 1, 1948 more than 1 million Germans went through this process).

Romania / Soviet Union – February 28, 1945 (PLC)

The Radescu Government resigns. Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Andrei Vishinski presses for a Romanian People’s Front.

March 1945**Poland / Soviet Union – March 1945 (PSN)**

The leaders of the Polish underground movement are invited to a meeting with

senior members of the Red Army. On arrival they are arrested, according to Stalin in agreement with the provisional government.

Yugoslavia – March 1, 1945 (PLC)

The Yugoslav Army is formed from the partisan groups.

Yugoslavia – March 2, 1945 (LUY)

The three new regents nominated by Tito are appointed by King Peter: Srdjan Rudisovljeviæ, Ante Mandiæ and Dušan Serbec.

Germany / Finland – March 3, 1945 (PLC)

Finland declares war on Germany.

Hungary – March 3, 1945 (REV)

The Hungarian Radical Party is established in Budapest with Imre Csécsy as president.

Estonia / Latvia / Lithuania / U.S. – March 3, 1945 (LBC)

The U.S. Government announces that it continues to recognize the Baltic States and its attitude has not changed in that respect.

Hungary – March 4, 1945 (HC)

In the prisoner of war camp of Debrecen the first unit (the 6th infantry division) of the Hungarian Democratic Army is formed.

Yugoslavia – March 5, 1945 (KCA)

The new Yugoslav Regents take their official oath in Belgrade.

Hungary – March 6-15, 1945 (HC)

The last attack (the battle of Lake Balaton) of the German South Army against the 2nd and 3rd armies of the Ukrainian Front takes place in the Transdanubian region. It is the last German offensive operation of the Second World War.

Romania – March 6, 1945 (PIR)

After tough negotiations with the representatives of the democratic parties, Vyshinsky imposes a government led by Petru Groza and composed of representatives of the National Democratic Front (Frontul Național Democrat), PNL-Tătărescu (The National Liberal Party-Tătărescu faction), PNȚ-Alexandrescu (The National Peasants' Party-Alexandrescu faction) and PSD (The Social-Democratic Party). This veritable *Coup d'État* opens the way for the communist regime in Romania.

Yugoslavia – March 7, 1945 (RYE/KCA)

A new Yugoslav Provisional Government is created after Stalin, Churchill and Roosevelt press Tito and Šubašić to implement and extend their agreements of the preceding summer. Tito becomes the last Royal Yugoslav Prime Minister and

Minister of Defense. Šubašić and two other members of the government in exile are accepted in his cabinet. The Yugoslav Government of National Unity supersedes the National Committee of Liberation and the Royal Yugoslav Government in London, whose existence is formally ended.

Yugoslavia – March 8, 1945 (OEH)

Based on the recommendation of AVNOJ, the Tito-Šubašić coalition government is extended with members of the Regency Council, established on March 2, 1945.

Hungary – March 9, 1945 (HC)

The joint session of the consultative committee of the Hungarian Communist Party and the Social-Democrat Party is held. It approves the proposal on land reform.

Romania – March 8, 1945 (PIR)

General Gheorghe Avramescu is arrested on the Czechoslovak front, along with General Nicolae Dragomir, and sent to Moscow. The general had been replaced from the command of the 4th Army in January 1945; he was tried in the USSR for membership in a subversive pro-German organization; he was accused of having aided the Legionary escape to Germany; on the Eastern front, he had fought alongside the Russian partisans; the Ministry of Justice declared him deceased in the town of Jászberény, Hungary, after a bombardment of the German aviation. He was buried at Sashalom.

Romania – March 8-9, 1945 (PIR)

Telegram exchange between Prime Minister Petru Groza, the Minister of External affairs Gheorghe Tătărescu, and Joseph Stalin, through which the transfer of Northern Transylvania to the Romanian Administration is agreed upon. The Romanian Government publishes the decree regarding the institutionalization of Romanian administration in Northern Transylvania.

Romania – March 9, 1945 (PIR)

The Ministry of Internal Affairs is reorganized under the leadership of Teohari Georgescu. The Police and State Security are cleansed of cadres active before August 23, 1944.

Romania – March 10, 1945 (PIR)

The Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Romanian Communist Party (PCR) discusses with the communist members of the government the Transylvanian problem, the arrest of war criminals and legionaries, and the founding of Popular Tribunals.

Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – March 11, 1945 (KCA)

Benes visits Moscow in order to engage in a number of negotiations.

Yugoslavia / U.K. / U.S. – March 12, 1945 (LUY)

Ralph Stevenson sets up the British Embassy in Belgrade. A few weeks later he is joined by U.S. Ambassador Richard C. Patterson.

Romania – March 13, 1945 (HC)

The Soviet military administration of Northern Transylvania is replaced by the Romanian civil service.

Romania – March 13, 1945 (PIR)

King Mihai I, A.I. Vyshinsky, Petru Groza, Gh. Tătărescu and other members of the government take part, in Cluj, at the ceremony marking the passage of Northern Transylvania to Romania.

Soviet Union / Romania / U.K. – March 14, 1945 (LBC)

British Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden declares in the House of Commons that the Soviet Union implemented the change in the Romanian government to suppress pro-Hitler and pro-fascist elements.

Romania – March 15, 1945 (PIR)

A manifestation takes place in the Palace Square in Bucharest during the reinstatement of Romanian administration in Northern Transylvania.

Yugoslavia – March 16, 1945 (ACY)

Alojzije Stepinac, Archbishop of Zagreb, addresses a conference of students on Croatia's right to independence and its unwillingness to accept any regime imposed by force.

Hungary – March 17, 1945 (HC)

The Provisional Government approves the 600/1945 decree about the land reform. The lands of the war criminals, arrow-cross members and other national-socialist leaders and Volksbund-members are to be confiscated to full extent. Lands over 800 thousand square meters are confiscated, but reclaiming for ransom is possible. Lands over 1 million square meters are fully confiscated. Land is required to be distributed amongst the poor.

Finland – March 17-18, 1945 (PLC)

The first parliamentary elections in Europe after the war take place in Finland. The participation rate, similarly to 1907, is especially high: 74.9%. The former party structure is broken, as the communist Finnish People's Democratic League (formed in 1944) receives 49 seats out of the 200 (23.5%), the second highest number of seats. The winning party, the Social Democratic Party of Finland wins 50 seats, the Agrarian League 49. The communist party becomes a part of the coalitional government.

Romania – March 19, 1945 (PIR)

The government demands the arrest of generals accused of war crimes; the list of accused individuals includes Ilie Șteflea, Gheorghe Potopeanu, Radu Korne, Atanasie Trincu, and Gheorghe Cialak.

Soviet Union / Turkey – March 19, 1945 (KCA)

The Soviet Foreign Commissariat informs the Turkish Ambassador that the USSR denounced the Soviet–Turkish Treaty of friendship and neutrality signed in 1925.

Hungary – March 20, 1945 (HC)

The sappers of the Red Army open the temporarily reconstructed Liberty Bridge and “Manci” Bridge to public traffic.

Hungary / Soviet Union – March 21, 1945 (HC)

The Soviet Union gives 20 thousand tons of food supplies and a loan of 100 million Pengő to Hungary.

Romania – March 21, 1945 (PIR)

The Workers’ University of the PCR (Universitatea Muncitorească a PCR) is founded. The institution will be later renamed the “Ștefan Gheorghiu” Academy (after the unification with the Superior Party School “Jdanov”).

Poland / Soviet Union – April 21, 1945 (PSN)

The Polish provisional government and the Soviet Union sign a “Treaty of Friendship, Mutual Aide and Post-War Cooperation.” The treaty is primarily aimed at Germany promising mutual aide if either of the parties were to be attacked by Germany or its allies. The treaty forbids the cooperation of each party with Germany against the other.

Czechoslovakia – March 22, 1945 (PLC)

An agreement is reached between the Czechoslovak Government in exile in London and the Communist group returning from Moscow in the town of Kosice (Kassa).

Romania – March 22, 1945 (PLC)

A decree of land reform in Romania is issued.

Romania – March 22, 1945 (PIR)

The Council of FND discusses the reports from its members of the government regarding the implementation of the law for the cleansing of private enterprises, as well as the law of profession chambers, labor legislation and the modification of the Constitution.

Hungary – March 23, 1945 (HC)

The Red Army liberates Székesfehérvár and Veszprém.

Romania – March 23, 1945 (HC)

The Groza Government orders the confiscation of lands exceeding 200 thousand square meters.

Romania – March 23, 1945 (PIR/HC)

An agrarian reform is legislated. It orders the confiscation of lands exceeding 200 thousand square meters and 900,000 families receive 1,468,000 ha of land.

Hungary – March 24, 1945 (HC)

3,400 kat. Hold (~1957 ha) of land began to be parcelled out in Balmazújváros, according to the *Szabadság*, the main newspaper of the Independence Front. The Csepel section of the Hungarian Communist Party calls for the celebration of 1st of May and for the rebuilding competition of the parties of Budapest.

Yugoslavia – March 24, 1945 (ACY)

Five Catholic bishops, members of the Working Committee of the Bishops' Conference, meet and issue a pastoral letter rejecting the accusation that the Church was guilty of misdeeds during the war.

Hungary – March 25, 1945 (HC)

The *Szabad Nép*, the major newspaper of the Hungarian Communist Party is published. (editor in chief: József Révai)
The temporarily reconstructed Southern railway bridge in Budapest is opened for traffic.

Hungary – March 26, 1945 (REV) (HC)

The Allied Control Commission holds its first meeting in Debrecen, chaired by Marshal Kliment Voroshilov.
Cardinal Serédi Jusztinián, Archbishop of Esztergom dies.

Hungary – March 27, 1945 (HC)

The major newspaper of the National Peasant Party, the *Szabad Szó* is published. (editor in chief: József Darvas)

Hungary – March 27, 1945 (KCA)

The Provisional Government issues a special law revoking all anti-Jewish legislation, placing the Jews on equality with all other citizens.

Poland / Soviet Union – March 27-28, 1945 (PLC)

The Soviets arrest 16 members of the Polish exile government in Pruskow.

Hungary – March 28, 1945 (HC)

The Red Army captures Győr and Komárom.
The first convention of the reorganized National Committee of Budapest is held. (Chairman: Árpád Szakasits, secretary: Gyula Kállai)

Soviet Union / Austria / Hungary – March 29, 1945 (PLC)

The Soviet army crosses the Hungarian-Austrian border.

Yugoslavia – March 29, 1945 (PLC)

The Yugoslav government splits Sandžak (occupied by Italy from 1941, and by Germany from 1943) between Serbia and Montenegro, disregarding the 1943 outlines of the federation.

Romania – March 29, 1945 (PIR)

The Minister of Justice, Lucrețiu Pătrășcanu, signs the decree for the “purging of public administration”, promulgated the same day by the king.

Hungary – March 29, 1945 (HC)

The beginning of the implementation of the land reform takes place in a ceremonial way in Pusztaszer.

The Provisional National Government releases the 751/1945 decree on the set-up of the National Economic Council.

Ferenc Szálasi “Nationleader” and his closest colleagues (218 people) leave the town of Kőszeg in Western Hungary by train towards southern Germany.

Hungary – March 30, 1945 (HC)

Kis Újság, the major newspaper of the Independent Smallholders Party, begins publishing. (Managing editor: count Gyula Dessewffy)

Romania – March 30, 1945 (HC)

The radio of Bucharest begins its Hungarian broadcast for one hour a day.

Poland / Soviet Union – March 30, 1945 (PLC)

The Soviet army occupies Gdansk (Danzig).

Romania – March 31, 1945 (PIR)

The government approves – at Lucrețiu Pătrășcanu’s proposal – the decree regarding the punishment of those guilty of war crimes and of the country’s disaster. These categories are so inclusive that practically the whole former political elite could be labelled as war “criminals”.

April 1945

Yugoslavia – April-May 1945 (KCA)

The federal structure of the new Yugoslavia takes shape as Regional Governments are established for Serbia, Croatia, Slovenia, Montenegro, Bosnia-Herzegovina and Macedonia.

Romania – April 1, 1945 (PIR)

The following laws are promulgated: the law regarding the exceptional imposition of war benefits (for the years 1941-1944) of industrial and commercial enterprises

and of private fortunes obtained in the period; the law regarding the creation of the global income tax for private individuals.

Hungary – April 1, 1945 (HC)

The Red Army liberates Sopron and Nagykanizsa. The next day it liberates Mosonmagyaróvár.

The temporary Petőfi-bridge is opened in Budapest.

Hungary – April 2, 1945 (HC)

The Budapest members of the Provisional National Assembly are elected. (The division of the representatives: Hungarian Communist Party 26, Social-Democratic Party 26, Independent Smallholders Party 16, Civil Democratic Party 6, representatives of trade unions: 6, independent: 8)

Romania – April 3, 1945 (HC)

The order from the County Chief's office in Cluj (Kolozsvár) is published. It orders authorities to accept proposals written in a foreign language; in places where the language population exceeds 90%, this language must be used even in the official reports. It also orders the bilingual inscriptions at the post offices and railway stations.

Czechoslovakia – April 3, 1945 (KCA)

President Benes and his government return from London.

Hungary / Czechoslovakia – April 4, 1945 (REV)

The Czechoslovak government program announced in Košice (Kassa) declares that the country's Hungarian minority has collective responsibility for the wartime fragmentation of the country. All its members except those who were active in the resistance movement are stripped of their citizenship. Furthermore, all citizens of Hungarian national affiliation are barred from holding land.

Hungary – April 4, 1945 (HC)

The Red Army liberates the last Hungarian village: Nemesmedves (Vas County). Report from the Red Army: after 194 days of fighting, the last German troops are pushed out of Hungary. According to a 1946 assessment, the damage caused by the war exceeds 22 billion pengő. This is about 5 times higher than Hungary's state revenue in the year of 1938. 40% of the national property has been destroyed.

The National Land-organizing Council holds its first session (the members of the Council: Péter Veres, National Peasant Party; Ferenc Nagy and Mihály Kerék, Independent Smallholders Party; Ferenc Donáth, Hungarian Communist Party; József Takács, Social-Democratic Party)

Romania – April 4, 1945 (PIR)

Law no. 260 extends the rule of Romanian legislation over the whole territory of Transylvania, nullifying the effects of Hungarian legislation.

Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – April 4, 1945 (PLC)

The Soviets occupy Bratislava (Pozsony). The independent Slovak state collapses.

Hungary / Soviet Union – April 4, 1945 (PLC)

Diplomatic relations between Hungary and the Vatican are broken off as a result of Soviet pressure.

Soviet Union / Japan – April 5, 1945 (KCA)

Moscow radio announces that the Soviet Government has denounced its Neutrality Pact with Japan, an act welcomed in the Allied capitals.

Romania – April 5, 1945 (PIR)

Under the coordination of PCR, the Union of Anti-Fascist Women from Romania (Uniunea Femeilor Anti-Fasciste din România) is created.

Yugoslavia – April 5, 1945 (PLC)

Yugoslav partisans occupy Sarajevo.

Yugoslavia – April 5, 1945 (OEH)

A monetary reform takes place in Yugoslavia. The dinar is re-valued 10 to 1.

Hungary / Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – April 6, 1945 (HC)

Hungarian-Soviet reparation agreements are signed in Moscow, while the Hungarian-Czechoslovakian agreements are signed in Prague.

The *Néplap* newspaper states that the Hungarian divisions are allowed to fight at the front. (the 6th division on 13 April, the 1st division on 23 April depart for Austria, they perform their tasks behind the front lines)

Poland – April 6, 1945 (KCA)

The Polish Government in London issues a statement saying that after receiving an invitation to meet with Col. Pimienov, 15 Polish officials presented themselves to General Ivanov and since then have not returned, have not been in contact with their families, and that their whereabouts are unknown.

Poland – April 6, 1945 (KCA)

The Polish Army in London analyzes military and civilian casualties suffered by Poland since the outbreak of the war and publishes a report estimating 1,045,000 military casualties and 9,000,000 civilian casualties.

Czechoslovakia – April 7, 1945 (KCA)

The constitution of the Provisional Government, as agreed in Moscow, is announced.

Soviet Union – April 7, 1945 (PLC)

Lithuania receives the Memel area as a part of the USSR.

Yugoslavia – April 7, 1945 (KCA)

The Government of Macedonia is established at Skopje.

Austria / Soviet Union – April 8, 1945 (KCA)

The Soviet Government issues a statement saying that the Red Army's invasion of Austria does not mean that it is aiming to acquire any new territory, and that its goal is to destroy the regimes of the German-fascist invaders.

Hungary – April 8, 1945 (HC)

The first great convention of the Smallholders Party takes place in Budapest. (The Republican Party led by Imre Vér and the Kossuth Party led by Vince Nagy join the Smallholders Party)

Poland – April 8, 1945 (KCA)

Cardinal Hlond, Primate of Poland, arrives in Paris after his release by the Allied forces. He had been detained by the Germans.

Yugoslavia / Italy – April 8, 1945 (NBT)

A bomb explodes in front of the headquarters of the Yugoslav Partisan representation in Rome.

Romania – April 9, 1945 (PIR)

A meeting of the leadership of the United Labor Front (Frontul Unic Muncitoresc) takes place. Discussions cover the relations between the Social-Democratic Party (PSD) and the Communist Party, and the removal of former Iron Guard elements from PSD.

Poland – April 9, 1945 (KCA)

Statements are issued in Britain saying that the proceeding of the Commission of Three (M. Molotov, Sir Archibald Clark Kerr, and Mr. Averell Harriman), set up in Moscow to consult on the reorganization of the Polish Government under the Yalta Agreement, has reached a deadlock.

Hungary – April 9, 1945 (HC)

Count Géza Teleki (minister of religion and education) undertakes the leading position of the Civil Democratic Party.

Soviet Union – April 9, 1945 (PLC)

The Soviet army occupies Königsberg.

Yugoslavia – April 10, 1945 (KCA)

Government of Serbia established in Belgrade.

Poland – April 11, 1945 (KCA)

It is announced that on March 1, M. Wincenty Witos, former Prime Minister of Poland and leader of the Peasant Party for 20 years, was taken from his car by his

home to an unknown destination by four persons, one of which was wearing a Soviet uniform.

Hungary – April 11, 1945 (HC)

The Provisional National Government and the Allied Control Commission (the Commission on 12 April) move from Debrecen to Budapest.

Yugoslavia / Soviet Union – April 11, 1945 (KCA)

The USSR and Yugoslavia sign a treaty of friendship, mutual assistance and post-war collaboration.

Romania – April 12, 1945 (PIR)

Participants in the Movement of the Progressive Youth (Mișcarea Tineretului Progresist) decide to create a unitary organization entitled The Progressive Youth of Romania (Tineretul Progresist din România). The Congress of the new structure takes place on October 22-24, 1945.

Hungary – April 12, 1945 (HC)

The first meeting of the Government takes place in Budapest.

Romania – April 12-14, 1945 (PIR)

The Minister of Internal Affairs, Teohari Georgescu, gives instructions to the prefects regarding the substitution of mayors in the rural areas.

Austria / Soviet – Union April 13, 1945 (PLC)

Soviet troops occupy Vienna after the street fights starting on April 7.

Yugoslavia / Soviet Union – April 13, 1945 (OEH)

An economic agreement is signed between Yugoslavia and the Soviet Union.

Soviet Union – April 14, 1945 (PLC)

The Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church is banned.

Poland – April 15, 1945 (PLC)

The former Premier of the London Polish Government, Stanislaw Mikolajczyk, recognizes the Allies' decision on Poland at Yalta, which was one of the conditions to participate in the government.

Yugoslavia / Italy – April 15, 1945 (LBC)

Marshall Tito announces Yugoslavia's claim on Trieste and Istria.

Germany – April 16, 1945 (PLC)

The battle of Berlin begins.

Yugoslavia – April 17, 1945 (KCA)

The Government of Croatia is established at Split, and the Government of Montenegro at Cetinje.

Czechoslovakia – April 17, 1945 (PLC)

The American army of Patton approaches Western Czechoslovakia from Bavaria.

Romania / Bulgaria – April 20, 1945 (PIR)

The Association for Romanian-Bulgarian Friendship is founded in Bucharest.

Germany / Italy – April 21, 1945 (PLC)

After the occupation of Bologna, the German front in northern Italy collapses.

Romania – April 21, 1945 (PIR)

Law no. 312 for the pursuance and sanction of those guilty of the country's disaster or of war crimes is passed.

Poland – April 21, 1945 (KCA)

The Soviet Union and Polish Provisional Government (the former Lublin Committee) sign a treaty of friendship, mutual assistance, and post-war cooperation.

Hungary – April 23, 1945 (HC/REV)

The gendarmerie is dissolved and a unified Hungarian State Police is established by the 1700/1945 edict of the Provisional National Government. The Government declares March 15 (the anniversary of the outbreak of the 1848 Revolution) a national holiday, April 4 the festival of the Liberation, and May 1 the festival of Labor.

Major József Lakos, police chief of Szentes, is arrested and imprisoned until February 1946. He is beaten and tortured while under arrest, for not wanting to join the communist party.

The Alliance of Democratic Youth is formed. (MADISZ, chairman: Zoltán Szabó, National Peasant Party; secretary general: József Kiss, Hungarian Communist Party)

Romania – April 23, 1945 (PIR)

The Political Bureau of the CC of PCR discusses the evolution of the internal political situation between August 23, 1944 and March 6, 1945, the economic situation, the agrarian reform and the verification of cadres proposed for various offices.

Finland – April 24, 1945 (PLC)

The Germans leave northeast Finland. During the fights from September 1944, the Finnish lost 4,000, the Germans 4,400 soldiers.

The Western Allies reject the German offer of a separate peace treaty.

Hungary – April 24, 1945 (HC)

The daily paper called *Népsport* [People's Sport] begins publishing.

Romania – April 25, 1945 (PIR)

At Mihai Ralea's (Minister of Arts) proposal, a decree is adopted by which the ancient fortresses of Histria, Adamclisi, Capidava, Callatis, Harsova, etc. are declared historical monuments.

Austria / Soviet Union – April 25, 1945 (PLC)

The allied Soviet and Anglo-Saxon troops meet at Torgau (by the Elba) and at Erlauf (in Austria).

Czechoslovakia – April 26, 1945 (PLC)

Milano, Brno and Stettin are occupied.

Hungary – April 26, 1945 (HC)

The leadership of the National Peasant Party is reorganized and expanded. Chairman is Péter Veres, General Secretary is Imre Kovács.

Romania / Soviet Union – April 27, 1945 (PIR)

A Romanian economic delegation, led by Mircea Durma, minister of Finances, leaves for Moscow for economic negotiations with the USSR; negotiations last until May 3rd.

Austria – April 27, 1945 (PLC)

In Austria a provisional coalition government is formed led by the socialist Karl Renner.

Romania – April 28, 1945 (PIR)

British trade union leader John Mark arrives in Romania and, in a meeting with the representatives of the PCR, discusses various aspects of the trade union movement in the two states.

Poland – April 28, 1945 (KCA)

The Polish Government in London issues a statement saying that the Lublin Government is not the true Polish Provisional Government, and that although it would like relations with the Soviet Union to be conducted in the spirit of good-neighbourliness, the treaty does not reach that end because it is invalid.

Yugoslavia – April 29, 1945 (KCA)

The Government of Bosnia-Herzegovina is established at Sarajevo.

Yugoslavia – April 30, 1945 (KCA)

Tito announces that the 4th Yugoslav army has entered Rijeka, Pula and Trieste.

Germany – April 30, 1945 (PLC)

Hitler commits suicide in Berlin.
American forces take over Munich.

May 1945

Yugoslavia – May 1945 (JVJ)

The Partisan troops liberate the last of Yugoslav territory.

Yugoslavia / Bulgaria – May 1945 (PLC)

Yugoslavia initiates diplomatic relations with Bulgaria.

Yugoslavia / Albania – May 1945 (PLC)

Yugoslav-Albanian negotiations on a federation take place.

Yugoslavia – May 1945 (ACY)

The Orthodox Synod decides to reopen the seminary at Prizren, but the government says that it is not yet possible. Permission to reopen the seminary is granted by the Serbian government at the beginning of 1947.

Yugoslavia – May 1945 (LBY)

British Army General Keightley returns over 9,000 Croat soldiers to Yugoslavia, who on arrival are massacred by Tito's partisans.

Romania – May 1, 1945 (PIR)

A large manifestation take place in Bucharest, followed by a Festival of Labor at the National Theater. The events are organized by the Government, the FND and the General Confederation of Work (Confederația Generală a Muncii).

Hungary – May 1, 1945 (HC)

The first Labor Day is celebrated all over the country. The Hungarian Radio begins broadcasting in Budapest. Beer is sold for the first time since the war.

Germany / Yugoslavia / Trieste – May 1, 1945 (PLC)

British and German forces arrive in Trieste, after Tito's Partisans occupied the city.

Yugoslavia – May 1, 1945 (KCA)

Italian Premier and Foreign Minister insist that until Italo-Yugoslav frontier questions can be definitely solved at a Peace Conference, the disputed territory must be entrusted to Allied military administration.

Germany – May 2, 1945 (PLC)

The German headquarters are moved to Flensburg, where the government of Donitz is formed, hoping to agree on partial armistice with the Allies.

Soviet Union / Germany – May 2, 1945 (PLC)

The Soviet Army occupies Berlin.

Yugoslavia / Germany May 2, 1945 (PLC)

The Germans leave Zagreb. The Croatian state collapses.

Austria – May 2, 1945 (PLC)

The proclamation of the Republic of Austria.

Romania – May 3, 1945 (PIR)

The law for salary settlement and the founding of ‘economat’ shops is promulgated. Other laws are adopted: The Law for the settlement of prices regime and the circulation of goods; The Law on the introduction of goods into circulation; The Law for the suppression of commercial speculation and of economic sabotage; The Law for the creation of citizen control organs.

Germany / U.K. – May 3, 1945 (PLC)

The British Army occupies Hamburg.

Czechoslovakia – May 4, 1945 (PLC)

Benes (in immigration since 1939) is chosen temporarily as the President of Czechoslovakia (1945-1948).

Germany – May 4, 1945 (PLC)

The German troops suspend the resistance against the Western Allies.

Yugoslavia / Trieste / Italy / New Zealand – May 4, 1945 (LUY)

All military resistance ends in Trieste with the Yugoslavs and New Zealanders belligerently facing each other off in the city.

Czechoslovakia – May 5, 1945 (PLC)

The beginning of the Prague uprising takes place in the city. The insurgents are soon forced to ask for the help of the German-side Vlaszov army of 20,000 soldiers stationed 30 km from the capital. This army, led by Bujanyicsenko, liberates the city and then leaves.

Eisenhower orders the Americans to end the fights in Czechoslovakia. Patton’s army stops at Plzen after occupying the city on May 6, and lets the Soviet Red Army, under the leadership of marshal Koniev, liberate Prague.

Hungary – May 5-6, 1945 (HC)

Representatives of the Labour Union of Peasants convene in Budapest. (New name: National League of Peasants and Smallholders – FÉKOSZ, chairman: József Takács, Social-Democratic Party, vice-chairman: Gyula Rácz, Hungarian Communist Party and Sándor Kállay, Social-Democratic Party, secretary general: János Német, Hungarian Communist Party)

Hungary – May 5, 1945 (REV)

The Hungarian government addresses a verbal note to Marshal Kliment Voroshilov, chairman of the Allied Control Commission, protesting that the Red Army is arbitrarily dismantling whole installations and factories and shipping them away with raw materials and finished products, without accounting for them. (Further protest notes are sent on May 14, 25, 28 and 30 and June 5, without effect.)

Poland – May 5, 1945 (KCA)

The official TASS Agency releases a Soviet statement saying that the 15 Polish people that apparently disappeared are actually 16, that they were arrested by the Soviet Command, and that they are in Moscow pending the investigation of their case.

Romania – May 6-13, 1945 (PIR)

The congress of the Hungarian Popular Union, organization member of FND, takes place in Cluj.

Yugoslavia – May 6, 1945 (ACY)

General von Löhr informs Paveliæ that the Germans have signed the document of their surrender, and relinquishes his command to Paveliæ. The next day Paveliæ orders an accelerated withdrawal to Austria and then himself flees to safety, eventually reaching Argentina.

Germany – May 7, 1945 (PLC)

In Reims a German delegation led by Colonel Alfred Jodl signs an armistice requiring total and unconditional capitulation in front of the Commander-in-Chief of the Western Allies, Eisenhower.

Germany / Soviet Union – May 8, 1945 (PLC/REV)

General (Field Marshal) Wilhelm Keitel signs an agreement of unconditional capitulation of the German forces at the Soviet headquarters in Germany, at Karlshorst near Berlin. The agreement comes into force at midnight on May 9, thereby ending the Second World War in Europe. As demanded by the Soviet Union it is declared to be the “Day of Victory” in Europe.

Germany – May 8, 1945 (PLC)

The German military forces in Norway capitulate. The émigré Norwegian government returns from London.

Romania / Soviet May 8, 1945 (PIR)

In Moscow, the Romanian Minister of Finance, Mircea Durma, signs accords of economic collaboration with the USSR, on the basis of which mixed Soviet-Romanian societies (SOVROM) will be created in different branches of the economy (a total of 16 such organizations will be created).

Romania – May 8, 1945 (PIR)

The Superior Department of Culture, Education and Propaganda of the Army is created for the purpose of extending communist control.

Yugoslavia – May 8, 1945 (ACY)

Partisan troops enter Zagreb.

Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – May 9, 1945 (PLC)

The Soviet army marches into Prague, liberated by the Vlaszov-army. The Czechoslovak government moves from Kosice to Prague.

Soviet Union / U.S. – May 9, 1945 (PLC)

The United States announces the end of the lend-lease aids to the Soviet Union, but the decision is changed after Soviet objection.

Hungary – May 10, 1945 (HC)

The Government appoints commissioners to guide the reorganization of the industry.

A sequence of conventions of the Social-Democratic Party begins in Budapest. The convention works on the political program of the party.

Hungary – May 11, 1945 (HC)

The National High Council (Nemzeti Főtanács) appoints Ernő Gerő (Hungarian Communist Party) as Minister of Trade and Traffic. It also establishes the Rebuilding Ministry led by Ferenc Nagy (Independent Smallholders Party).

Hungary – May 11-12, 1945 (HC)

The National Miners' Congress takes place in Budapest. It discusses questions of production, food supplies and salaries.

Soviet Union – May 11, 1945 (KCA)

Ralph Parker, correspondent of *The Times* in Moscow, sends a letter to Stalin, stating that the 16 Poles arrested by the Soviet Union were in fact members of a delegation invited to negotiate with the Soviet authorities.

Romania – May 12, 1945 (PIR)

The Romanian Army ends its participation in the anti-Hitlerist war, after having fought for the liberation of Hungary, Czechoslovakia and Austria.

Yugoslavia / U.K. / U.S. – May 12, 1945 (LBC)

U.S. Undersecretary of State Joseph. C. Grew announces that he opposes Marshall Tito's claim on Trieste. The U.S. and the United Kingdom send memoranda to Tito in which they affirm that Trieste must remain under Allied control until a peace conference decides its future.

Hungary – May 13, 1945 (HC)

Street lights are switched back on in Budapest.

Romania – May 14-22, 1945 (PIR)

The trial of the first lot of war criminals (of whom the most notable was General Nicolae Macici) takes place at the People's Tribunal and concludes with 29 death sentences.

Hungary – May 14, 1945 (HC)

The newspaper of the Civil Democratic Party, *Világ* begins to publish. (Managing director: Géza Supka)

Germany – May 14, 1945 (PLC)

The German military forces in Eastern Prussia capitulate.

Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – May 15, 1945 (KCA)

Czechoslovak Prime Minister M. Zdenek Fierlinger announces that the Czechoslovak Government recognizes that the population of Ruthenia is primarily Ukrainian in language and culture, and that it will not oppose the Ruthenian people's desire to be incorporated into the USSR as part of the Ukrainian Soviet Republic.

Hungary – May 16, 1945 (REV)

The Committee of the Capital City Authority holds its first meeting. Árpád Szakasits is elected chairman, with László Cseh-Szombathy and László Rajk as vice-chairmen, Zoltán Vas (MKP) as mayor, and József Kővágó (FKGP), Endre Morvay (FKGP) and Péter Bechtler (SZDP) as deputy mayors. The Hungarian-Soviet indemnity negotiations begin between delegations headed by Hungarian Lieutenant General Hermann Pokorný, chairman of the Indemnity Committee, and General Valerian Zorin, head of the Economic Department at the Allied Control Commission.

Yugoslavia / U.S. – May 16, 1945 (LBC)

Joseph C. Grew repeats his warning to Tito concerning a territorial settlement by use of force.

Yugoslavia – May 17, 1945 (ACY)

Archbishop Stepinac is taken into protective custody and lodged in a villa in Zagreb.

Soviet Union – May 18, 1945 (KCA)

Stalin replies to Parker's letter, saying that the arrest of the 16 Poles was not related

in any way to the reconstruction of the Polish Provisional Government, and that they were arrested in concordance with the law.

Hungary / Czechoslovakia – May 18, 1945 (HC)

An order of the Slovak National Council is issued. It states that all Hungarians, except the active anti-Fascists are excluded from political parties. All Hungarian press is forbidden in Slovakia.

Austria – May 19-26, May 24, 1945 (KCA)

Field Marshall Sir Harold Alexander officially announces two proclamations to the Austrian people regarding his troops' entry into the country. He says that while Austria was responsible for fighting with the Germans against the Allies, it will be liberated from German domination in hopes of Austria being reestablished in freedom and independence.

Soviet Union – May 19, 1945 (KCA)

The texts of Parker's letter and of Stalin's response are published simultaneously.

Hungary – May 20-21, 1945 (HC)

The first national convention of the Hungarian Communist Party takes place in Budapest.

Romania – May 20-23, 1945 (PIR)

The First Congress of ARLUS opens in Bucharest in the presence of Petru Groza.

Yugoslavia / U.S. – May 20, 1945 (LBC)

U.S. troops leave Trieste.

Romania – May 22, 1945 (PIR)

The FND Committee discusses the inclusion into the Front of the youth organizations, women's organizations and the Union of Petit Professionals, as well as the unification of youth and women's organizations into one structure.

Hungary – May 23, 1945 (HC)

The number 55 000/1945 order of the Minister of Industry is published: workers' committees must be organized even in factories with 20 workers.

Germany – May 23, 1945 (PLC)

In Germany the members of the Donitz government are arrested.

Soviet Union / U.S. – May 23, 1945 (LBC)

Harry L. Hopkins, President Truman's special envoy, travels to Moscow to discuss matters of mutual interest between the U.S. and the USSR with Marshal Stalin.

Yugoslavia / Soviet Union – May 24, 1945 (PLC)

After a gun fight with British forces, Tito's partisans leave Trieste and Gorizia,

occupied during the last days of the war, because of Western pressure and lack of Soviet support.

Romania – May 25, 1945 (PIR)

Regional economic offices are created, with the purpose of collecting agricultural products which would eventually be delivered to the USSR and account for the payment of war reparations according to the Romanian-Soviet convention of January 1945.

Yugoslavia – May 25, 1945 (OEH)

Pressured by the Western Allied powers, the Yugoslav Partisan troops withdraw from the occupied Carinthian territories.

Soviet Union / U.K. – May 26, 1945 (LBC)

British Foreign Secretary Eden sends a message to Soviet Commissar of Foreign Affairs Molotov to commemorate the third anniversary of the Soviet-British treaty. In this he expresses that peace in Europe can be secured only if both the Soviet Union and the United Kingdom adhere to the treaty. Eden points out that the treaty envisions a “close and friendly cooperation” between contracting parties, “without striving for any territorial acquisitions for ourselves and refraining from interference with the internal affairs of other states”.

Hungary – May 27, 1945 (HC)

The funeral service of anti fascist resistance leader Endre Bajcsy-Zsilinszky, executed by Szálasi's arrow-cross government in December, 1944, takes place in Budapest in the presence of the members of the Government and the Allied Control Commission. After the service he is buried in Tarpa (Bereg County).

Yugoslavia – May 27, 1945 (LUY)

Tito addresses a mass rally in Ljubljana. In connection to the Trieste situation, he states that "we do not want to be used as a bribe in international bargaining; we do not want to get involved in any policy of spheres of interest."

Romania – May 29, 1945 (HC)

The number 1945:407 law is passed in Romania. It orders that before 1st of June 1945, a Hungarian university must be set up in Cluj, (Kolozsvár) under the name of Bolyai Magyar Tannyelvű Állami Tudományegyetem (Bolyai Hungarian Language State University), with the following faculties: Liberal Arts, Law, Economics, Natural Sciences, Medicine.

Hungary / Czechoslovakia – May 30, 1945 (HC)

The number 44/1945 order of the Slovakian National Council is published. State officials of Hungarian ethnicity, including teachers, are fired. The Hungarian government sharply protests at the Allied Control Commission against the anti-Hungarian orders in Slovakia.

Romania – May 30-June 4, 1945 (PIR)

The People's Tribunal tries the journalist war criminals: Pamfil Şeicaru, Stelian Popescu, Nichifor Crainic, Grigore Manolescu, Radu Gyr, and others.

Hungary – May 31, 1945 (REV)

Among the goods supplied to the Red Army by the Hungarian government in the second quarter of 1945 are 9,400 tons of fresh meat, 10 tons of slaughtered poultry, 1,300 tons of milk, 540 tons of butter, 48,000 tons of fresh vegetables, 2,000 tons of sugar and 1,050 tons of tobacco.

June 1945**Hungary / Yugoslavia – June 1945 (HC)**

The Hungarian Alliance of Culture in Yugoslavia is formed (in Újvidék - Novi Sad,). Its objectives are the organization of Hungarian cultural associations, libraries, book publishing, and book circulating, and also to lead Hungarian language education.

Yugoslavia – June 1945 (ACY)

Bishop Arsenije Bradvaroviæ is appointed administrator of four Orthodox Croatian dioceses: Zagreb, Gornji Karlovac, Pakrac and Dalmatia.

Yugoslavia – June 1945 (LBY)

The Yugoslav Government requests repatriation of war criminals.

Yugoslavia – June 2, 1945 (ACY)

While in Zagreb, Tito meets the representatives of Zagreb's Catholic clergy to discuss their situation. The aim of the government is to separate the church from the Vatican and form a national Catholic Church. Tito promises that the cases of imprisoned priests will be dealt with quickly.

Yugoslavia – June 3, 1945 (ACY)

Archbishop Stepinac is released from custody and returns to the archbishop's palace.

Yugoslavia – June 4, 1945 (ACY)

A meeting takes place between Tito, Chairman of the Croatian Communist Party, Vladimir Bakariæ and Archbishop Stepinac in Zagreb.

Germany / Soviet Union – June 5, 1945 (PLC)

The Commanders-in-Chief of the four occupying powers in their Berlin declaration - taking over officially the governing power - establish the Allied Control Council, a committee responsible for all German questions. The agreement on the zones is finalized.

Romania – June 5, 1945 (PIR)

The Center for Studies and Research regarding Transylvania is created as an annex to the University of Cluj.

Romania – June 6-7, 1945 (PIR)

A party conference with “the ones responsible for peasants’ work” from the entire country takes place, with the aim of preparing a Congress of the Plowmen’s Front.

Yugoslavia – June 7, 1945 (KCA)

Trials and execution of six Croat Fascist ministers and officers take place.

Romania / Czechoslovakia – June 7, 1945 (PIR)

Romania and Czechoslovakia resume diplomatic relations at the level of political representation.

Yugoslavia / U.K. / U.S. – June 9, 1945 (PLC)

American-British-Yugoslav agreement is reached on the Allies’ administration of the region of Venice Giulia (including Trieste).

Germany, Soviet Occupied Zone – June 10, 1945 (PLC/KCA))

In the Soviet-occupied zone of Germany the foundation of democratic parties is allowed, but the programs need to be presented to Soviet authorities for approval.

Yugoslavia / Italy – June 12, 1945 (KCA)

The Yugoslav flag is lowered from the Trieste town hall, signaling Yugoslavia’s withdrawal.

Romania – June 13, 1945 (PIR)

In a speech held in Cluj, Lucrețiu Pătrășcanu denounces the hostile campaign which questioned the final integration of Northern Transylvania within the borders of the Romanian state, and condemns the attempts of chauvinistic Hungarian elements to display the Hungarian flag and block the use of Romanian language in the administration and justice system.

Soviet Union – June 14, 1945 (KCA)

A group of eminent British scientists and scholars leaves Britain for the USSR as guests of the Soviet Academy of Sciences in celebration of the 220th anniversary of its founding.

Yugoslavia – June 14-15, 1945 (ACY)

A group of Montenegrin priests, led by Petar Kapičević, holds a meeting at Nikšić and sends a resolution to the Orthodox Synod asking that the Orthodox Church in Yugoslavia be organized so that "all Orthodox without regard to national origin should have equal standing."

Hungary – June 15, 1945 (HC)

Prime Minister Béla Dálnoki Miklós and Marshall K. J. Vorosilov the chairman of the Allied Control Commission sign the Hungarian-Soviet reparation agreement. Of the 200 million dollars reparation, 169 million must be paid by industrial products, 31 million dollars must be paid by agricultural goods in six years. According to the governmental edict, the total number of the Hungarian State Police is 34,000 members.

A new national rebuilding competition is launched at the National Council of Hungarian Free Trade Unions' own initiative.

Poland / Soviet Union – June 16-21, 1945 (PSN)

Trials are held in the Soviet Union for underground leaders in Poland, Lithuania, and western districts of Belarus and Ukraine.

Poland / Soviet Union – June 17-21, 1945 (PSN)

Negotiations begin in Moscow between the Soviet backed Polish provisional government and the former Prime Minister of the London Government, Stanislaw Mikolajczyk, on formation of a government that could be recognized by the United States and the United Kingdom. On June 21, Mikolajczyk agrees to take the position of Vice Prime Minister and Minister of Agriculture and the Provisional Government of National Unity is formed. This government is recognized by Britain and the United States. The Peasant Party is given independence but the Labor Party remains controlled. The National Party is refused legalization.

Romania – June 19, 1945 (PIR)

Law no. 511, which establishes transitory measures for the conversion of war industry into peace industry, is passed.

Czechoslovakia / Poland – June 19, 1945 (KCA)

Polish troops enter Teschen, an industrial town at the center of an important coal-mining area on the Czech-Polish border whose status had been disputed.

Hungary – June 20, 1945 (HC)

The people of Budapest receive 250 trucks, 18 thousand tons of grain, 1,400 tons of meat, 900 tons of salt, 180 tons of coffee and 100 square meters of window glass from the Soviet Union as a gift.

Hungary / Soviet Union – June 20, 1945 (REV)

The Hungarian Government sends a memorandum to the Soviet delegates of the Allied Control Commission calling for an end to Hungary's status as a war zone and for the Red Army to cease dismantling factories and shipping out goods without compensation. The task of guarding mines, factories, warehouses etc. should pass onto the Hungarian armed forces, and the railways and post office should be placed under Hungarian control.

Yugoslavia – June 20, 1945 (KCA)

An agreement is signed in Trieste fixing the demarcation line between the Allied and Yugoslav zones of occupation in Istria.

Yugoslavia – June 21, 1945 (KCA)

Yugoslav troops withdraw from Pula.

Czechoslovakia / Poland – June 21, 1945 (PLC)

A Czechoslovak-Polish treaty is signed for the border conflicts in Teschen and Orava/Spis.

Czechoslovakia – June 22, 1945 (KCA/PLC)

The Czechoslovak Government agrees on the expropriation of all land held by Germans, Hungarians, Czechoslovak traitors and Nazi collaborators.

Soviet Union / The Netherlands – June 23, 1945 (KCA)

An announcement is issued that Vassili Valkov has been appointed as first Soviet Ambassador to Holland.

Poland / Soviet Union – June 23, 1945 (LBC)

An agreement is signed in Moscow on the constitution of the new Polish government, which is to include five Londoners and domestic Poles as well as the members of the Moscow-backed Warsaw (Lublin) regime.

Hungary – June 24, 1945 (HC)

The Transdanubian representatives of the Provisional National Convention are elected. (Total: 160 representatives; Independent Smallholders Party: 51 members, Hungarian Communist Party: 33 members, Social-Democratic Party: 33 members, National Peasant Party: 20 members, Civil Democratic Party: 3 members, representatives of the trade unions: 20 members)

Romania – June 24-26, 1945 (PIR)

In the ANEF Stadium in Bucharest, Petru Groza inaugurates the first congress of the Plowmen's Front, an organization for which he would be president until its dissolution in 1953.

United Nations – June 26, 1945 (REV)

The Charter of the United Nations is signed at the San Francisco Conference outlining the principles of the world organization.

Poland – June 26, 1945 (KCA)

The Polish Government in London issues a statement declaring the new Polish Provisional Government of National Unity illegal, claiming it will only hand over its authority to a Government which has been formed on free Polish soil and which reflects the will of the people, as expressed in free elections.

Poland – June 27, 1945 (KCA)

The Polish Government in London issues an “Appeal to the Polish Nation”.

Poland – June 28, 1945 (PLC)

Following the agreements on June 23, the National United Provisional Government of Poland is formed with the participation of 5 members of the London government, and 16 members of the Lublin government. The deputy prime ministers of Prime Minister Osóbka-Morawski will be the communist Gomulka and Mikolajczyk from the Peasants’ Party.

Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – June 29, 1945 (PLC)

A Czechoslovak-Soviet treaty allows the Soviet annexation of the Carpathian Ukraine. The capital of the region will be Uzsgorod (Ungvár).

Poland – June 29, 1945 (PLC)

France recognizes the Polish provisional government.

Romania – June 30, 1945 (PIR)

The founding of the National Institute for Technological Research is decided.

Romania June 30 – July 2, 1945 (PIR)

A national conference of the Patriot’s Union, an organization under PCR influence, takes place in Bucharest.

July 1945**Yugoslavia – July 1945 (ACY)**

Bishop Stepinac orders the closing down of all religious associations, including Catholic Action, with the exception of Caritas.

Hungary – July 1945 (REV)

The League of Hungarian University and College Associations (MEFESZ) is established at a students’ conference in Balatonlelle. The Free Union of Hungarian Writers, established in February, takes the name Union of Hungarian Writers, or Writers’ Union.

Hungary – July 1945 (HC)

The journal of the Social-Democratic Party, *Szocializmus* begins to publish.

Hungary / Soviet Union – July 1, 1945 (REV)

The Red Army disbands the factory military commands, and transfers control of 300 factories to the Hungarian authorities.

Romania / France – July 1, 1945 (PIR)

Romania signs an economic agreement with France.

Romania – July 1, 1945 (PIR)

The Congress of the National Liberal Party (PNL), led by Gheorghe Tătărescu, takes place. New leadership organs are elected.

Czechoslovakia / Poland – July 1, 1945 (KCA)

After returning from Moscow, Fierlinger says he received Soviet assurances that Czechoslovakia had full right to its 1938 frontiers and that Teschen was important for the Czechoslovak economy.

Germany / Soviet Union / U.K. / U.S. – July 1, 1945 (PLC)

The establishment of the occupied zones in Germany is completed. The American, British and Soviet forces start to withdraw from the jointly occupied territories.

Poland – July 1, 1945 (PLC)

The Polish People's Resistance announces its new program called "The Testament of the Fighting Poland".

Austria / Allied forces – July 4, 1945 (PLC)

The Allies recognize the Austrian Renner government. They announce that Austria and Vienna will be divided into four occupied zones.

Poland / U.K. / U.S. – July 5, 1945 (PLC)

The United Kingdom and the United States recognize the Polish government, denying acknowledgement of the London government-in-exile.

Romania – July 5, 1945 (PIR)

A meeting of 20 regional organizations of PNTȚ-Anton Alexandrescu takes place, reaffirming the PNTȚ program of 1934.

Hungary / Soviet Union – July 6, 1945 (REV)

The Red Army transfers control of the coal mines to the Hungarian authorities.

Romania / Soviet Union – July 6, 1945 (PIR)

A decree of the Supreme Soviet Presidium of the USSR regarding the decoration of the head of the Romanian state, King Mihai I, with the Victory Order, the highest Soviet war decoration, is published.

Poland / Soviet Union – July 6, 1945 (PLC)

Polish-Soviet agreement on the exchange of minority populations is reached.

Romania / Soviet Union – July 6, 1945 (KCA)

The Soviet-Romanian Agreement on the release of Romanian prisoners of war is established.

Romania / Poland – July 7, 1945 (PIR)

Romania concludes an economic agreement with Poland.

Soviet Union – July 7, 1945 (PLC)

General amnesty is granted in the Soviet Union following the defeat of Nazi Germany.

Austria / Allied forces – July 9, 1945 (PLC)

Allied agreement on the Austrian occupied zones and the administration of Vienna is reached.

Poland / Soviet Union – July 9, 1945 (LBC)

A Polish-Soviet commercial treaty is signed.

Yugoslavia – July 11, 1945 (ACY)

Based on an initiative of the Slovenian Catholic Church, a meeting between the church and authorities takes place in Ljubljana. In its memorandum, the clergy welcomes the new Slovene government and condemns the wartime collaboration of the clergy with Italy, but tries to explain the reason behind the cooperation.

Romania – July 11-14, 1945 (PIR)

A session of the propaganda and agitation sections of the regional PCR committees takes place, during which the political, economic and organizational situations, the party education and the activity of syndical commissions throughout the country are discussed.

Czechoslovakia – October July 12, 1945 (KCA)

Karl Hermann Frank, former State Secretary to the Protectorate and Czechoslovakia's "War Criminal no.1" is arrested after being handed over to the Czechoslovak Government by the U.S. Military.

Romania – July 12, 1945 (PIR)

The annual national awards for Romanian literature and art (poetry, literary prose, critical prose or essay, dramatic literature, music, painting, sculpture, architecture) are instituted.

Hungary – July 12-13, 1945 (HC)

The first national convention of the factory unions takes place in Budapest.

Yugoslavia – July 13, 1945 (ABC)

A meeting of the Politburo of the Croatian Communist Party discusses church-state relations. During the meeting, Bakaric emphasizes that one has to come to terms with the "anti-national" work of the clergy and expose it.

Germany, Soviet Occupied Zone – July 14, 1945 (PLC)

In the Soviet-occupied zone of Germany the Democratic Bloc is formed from the communist KDP, the social democrat SPD, the Christian democrat CDU and the liberal LDPD.

Romania – July 16, 1945 (PIR)

It becomes compulsory for peasant households to give to the state quotas of the production of wheat, barley, corn, peas, beans and oleaginous seeds.

Allied forces – July 17-August 2, 1945 (HC)

The representatives of the three great powers (Truman, Churchill – (later Attlee) and Stalin) hold their conference in Potsdam. The main objectives of the conference: the political and economic basis of Germany's foreign occupation; German reparation; the peace treaty with Italy, Bulgaria, Finland, Romania and Hungary; the Western borders of Poland.

Czechoslovakia – July 17, 1945 (HC)

The No. 27/1945 presidential edict: Settlement Offices are established in Bratislava and in Prague. The task is to carry out "internal settlements" of Germans and Hungarians.

Romania – July 17, 1945 (PIR)

The convention regarding the creation of the Sovrompetrol company is signed in Bucharest. Its functioning (with a social capital amounting to 1,759,000 lei, in 1939 value) is authorized by the Romanian government on October 26, 1945.

Yugoslavia – July 17, 1945 (KCA)

The Crown Prince of Yugoslavia, Alexander, is born.

U.K. – July 17, 1945 (REV)

The Labour Party wins a majority in the general elections for the British House of Commons. The wartime Conservative leader Winston Churchill is replaced as Prime Minister by Clement Attlee of the Labour Party.

Poland / U.S. – July 19, 1945 (LBC)

A statement by Joseph C. Grew is made public, according to which the U.S. will insist on participating in the observation of Polish elections on an equal basis with other allies.

Soviet Union / Poland – July 19, 1945 (KCA)

Moscow radio announces the signing of a trade agreement between the Soviet Union and Poland providing for an exchange of goods totaling \$120 million and granting each other the most-favored-nation status.

Romania / Soviet Union – July 19, 1945 (PIR)

The convention regarding the founding of the Romanian-Soviet navigation company is signed in Bucharest.

Romania – July 19, 1945 (PIR)

Under orders from the Ministry of Internal Affairs (MAI), the first labor

detachments are created and administered by the General Inspectorate of the Gendarmerie.

Hungary – July 19, 1945 (HC)

The Board of National Public Education is formed. It is an advising committee of the government in questions of education and upbringing. Its chairman is the Nobel Prize winner scholar Albert Szent-Györgyi.

Hungary / Romania – July 20, 1945 (HC)

Hungary and Romania sign a temporary agreement about the exchange of commodities in Bucharest.

Hungary – July 21, 1945 (HC)

At Communist pressure Ministers Gabor Faragho, Agoston Valentiny and István Vásáry leave the Provisional National Government. The new ministers are Sándor Rónai (Minister of Public Welfare, Social-Democratic Party), István Ries (Minister of Justice, Social-Democratic Party), Imre Oltványi (Minister of Finance, Independent Smallholders Party)

Hungary – July 24, 1945 (HC)

Count Géza Teleki resigns from the chairman position of the Civil Democratic Party and leaves the party.

Soviet Union – July 26, 1945 (KCA)

Moscow radio announces that Molotov handed a note to the Japanese Ambassador in Mexico, stating that the U.S. and Britain had invited the Soviet Government to join in the war against Japanese aggression and that the Soviet Government had accepted this proposal.

Bulgaria – July 26, 1945 (PLC)

The Bulgarian opposition asks for international control during the elections of August 26.

Yugoslavia – July 28, 1945 (ACY)

In his speech, Bakaric warns the organizers of the pilgrimage at Marija Bistrica that legal measures could be taken against them. In his answer on 2 August, Stepinac vigorously denies that the pilgrimage was politically motivated.

Yugoslavia – July 29-August 7, 1945 (KCA)

The trial of Mihailović supporters takes place. Seven of the accused are sentenced to be executed on August 16, 1945, while the rest are sentenced to life imprisonment. General Mihailović is accused of treason.

Romania – July 30, 1945 (PIR)

The law “for the annulment and revoking of acts of disposition concluded in exceptional circumstances” is promulgated.

Austria – July 31, 1945 (KCA)

Karl Renner, Chancellor of the Austrian Provisional Government, issues a press statement protesting the division of Austria into zones, though he says his Government is not against Allied control.

August 1945**Bulgaria – August 1945 (OSA)**

The Ministers representing the Agrarian Party, the Social-Democratic Party, and the Independents leave the government of the Bulgarian Fatherland Front.

Albania – August 1945 (PLC)

In Albania a land reform decree is issued. It is extended on February 4 and March 27, 1946.

Allied forces / Germany – August 2, 1945 (PLC/REV/HC)

The end of the Potsdam conference of the Allies, held in the Hohenzoller castle in Cecilienhof from July 17. The Allies decide on the four-zone occupation of Germany and Berlin until the conclusion of a peace treaty, but they agree to treat the country as one single economic entity. Consensus is reached that Germany will not be divided and that a peace treaty will be signed with the country as a whole. As for the eastern borders of Germany it is decided that the territories east of the Oder-Neisse line will be put under Polish control until the peace treaty. East-Prussia is temporarily detached from Germany, and Northeast-Prussia is given to the Soviet Union. The Soviet Union demands control over at least one Italian colony, two eastern provinces of Turkey and military bases in the area of the Straits, on the Dardanelles. The Western Allies do not accept these requests. The Soviet Union eventually withdraws its demand for international control over the Ruhr and its Mediterranean claims. In return, the Western Allies undertake not to intervene in the affairs of the Soviet zone of occupation. The principle of the obligation to pay war reparations is accepted.

They establish the Council of Foreign Ministers to work out the draft peace treaties. The conference refuses the proposal of the Czechoslovakian government for the resettlement of the Hungarian minority from Czechoslovakia.

Hungary / Austria – August 4, 1945 (HC)

Hungary and Austria sign an agreement about the exchange of commodities in Budapest.

Romania – August 5, 1945 (PIR)

After the welcoming of Romanian troops in Cluj, incidents occur resulting in 3 deaths. The government accuses PNT of having provoked them.

Yugoslavia – August 5-7, 1945 (JVJ)

The founding congress of the Yugoslav People's Front takes place.

Romania / Soviet Union – August 6, 1945 (PIR)

Diplomatic relations between the USSR and Romania are re-established through a communiqué of the Soviet government handed to Petru Groza by General I.Z. Susaikov and Counselor A.P. Pavlov.

Romania / Finland / Soviet Union – August 6, 1945 (KCA)

The Soviet Government announces that it has resumed normal diplomatic relations with Romania and Finland.

Romania – August 6, 1945 (PIR)

A law regarding the settlement and sanction of crimes against the National Minorities Statute is promulgated.

Hungary / Soviet Union – August 7, 1945 (REV)

The Red Army transfers control of the Manfréd Weiss Iron Works in Csepel to the Hungarian authorities.

Romania – August 7, 1945 (PIR)

The Romanian Armistice Commission is reorganized and the General Commissariat for Armistice Execution is created.

Yugoslavia – August 7, 1945 (KCA)

Tito addresses the Yugoslav National Congress and asks for a Republican form of government.

Yugoslavia – August 7-25, 1945 (KCA)

The Anti-Fascist National Liberation Council (AVNOJ) holds its third session in Belgrade, meeting as a provisional parliament to draw up a draft for legislation for the election. A summary of the legislation is passed in the Council.

Austria / Soviet Union / U.K. / France / U.S. – August 8, 1945 (KCA)

London, Washington, Moscow and Paris jointly release a statement announcing that an Allied Control Council will be set up in Austria, and that the zones of occupation in the country will be established between the Soviet Union, the U.S., Britain and France.

Soviet Union / Japan – August 8, 1945 (PLC)

The Soviet Union declares war on Japan. The offensive begins in Manchuria the following day.

Soviet Union / France / U.K. / U.S. – August 8, 1945

Representatives of the four great powers (United States, United Kingdom, France and the Soviet Union) sign an agreement about the persecution and punishment of war criminals.

Yugoslavia – August 8, 1945 (KCA)

King Peter issues a response to Tito's statement repudiating his request and defending his right to power, dismissing the Yugoslav Regents and declaring that "from this moment the duty of defending the constitutional rights of my people reverts to me."

Yugoslavia – August 9, 1945 (KCA)

Tito speaks at the third session of ANVOJ, stating that the war damage suffered by Yugoslavia at the hands of Germany, Italy, Hungary, and Bulgaria was estimated at roughly \$61 billion. Tito strongly attacks Italy, which he said was responsible for a great deal of the damage.

Yugoslavia – August 10, 1945 (KCA)

The Yugoslav News Agency says that King Peter's statement was unconstitutional, and that it is "aimed at preventing the creation of a democratic federal Yugoslavia."

Romania / Soviet Union – August 13, 1945 (PIR)

After the re-establishment of diplomatic relations between Romania and the USSR, Iorgu Iordan and Simeon I. Kavtaradze are appointed extraordinary representatives in Moscow and Bucharest, respectively.

Romania – August 14, 1945 (PIR)

The "Law on names" (Legea Asupra Numelui) simplifies the procedure of name-change at the citizen's request and annuls existing interdictions restricting such operation.

Romania – August 14, 1945 (PIR)

The "Law for the annulment of disposition acts concluded during the Hungarian occupation", acts through which the Romanian population of Transylvania had been deprived of its goods, under constraint and violence, is promulgated.

Soviet Union – August 14, 1945 (KCA)

A meeting between Stalin, Molotov and the Chinese Prime and Foreign Ministers takes place. A Soviet-Chinese treaty of alliance and friendship is signed.

Austria – September August 14, 1945 (KCA)

Vienna radio announces the arrest of August Eigruber, former Gauleiter of Upper Austria, by American troops.

Soviet Union / Bulgaria – August 14, 1945 (PLC)

The Soviet Union restores its diplomatic relations with Bulgaria.

Allied forces / Germany – August 15, 1945 (KCA)

A map showing the final allocation of zones of occupation in Germany between the U.S., United Kingdom, France and the Soviet Union is issued with approval of the U.S. State Department. Also included on the map is the provisional western Polish frontier and the Soviet-Polish partition of East Prussia as agreed upon at the Potsdam Conference.

Hungary – August 16, 1945 (HC)

Marshall K. J. Vorosilov, the chairman of the Allied Control Commission informs Hungarian Prime Minister Béla Miklós Dálnoki about the resolutions of the Yalta Conference: parliamentary elections must be held in Hungary too. Vorosilov receives the Prime Minister, the Speaker of the Parliament and the representatives of the coalition parties to discuss the preparations for the elections.

Undersecretary of the Ministry of Interior Mihály Farkas, Gábor Péter, the leader of the political section of the police and György Pálffy the military-political section of the Ministry of Defence return from Salzburg where they discussed the transfer of Hungarian war criminals with the American occupying authorities.

Hungary – August 16, 1945 (REV)

Pope Pius XII appoints József Mindszenty, bishop of Veszprém, as archbishop of Esztergom in succession to the deceased Cardinal Primate Jusztinián Serédi. (Mindszenty is installed on October 2.)

Poland / Soviet Union – August 16, 1945 (PSN)

Poland and the Soviet Union sign an agreement on German war reparations. The Soviet Union renounces claims to German property in Poland and in the part of Germany that is ceded to Poland following the Potsdam conference. In return Poland agrees to supply the Soviet Union with 52 million tons of coal over the next five years, followed by twelve tons a year on an agreed, low, price. In 1947 the quotas were lowered and in 1953 the supply for low prices was cancelled.

Soviet Union – August 17, 1945 (KCA)

Poles and Jews living in the Soviet Union who had been forced to adopt Soviet nationality during the war would now be allowed to claim Polish nationality, whilst Ukrainians, Belorussians, Ruthenians and Lithuanians would be allowed to claim Soviet nationality.

Hungary – August 17-20, 1945 (HC)

A National Sport Congress takes place in Budapest.

Soviet Union / Poland – August 17, 1945 (KCA)

Soviet Union and Poland sign a treaty on the delimitation of the Soviet-Polish frontier. Poland gains two large districts and other reparations.

Austria – August 17, 1945 (KCA)

The first trial of war criminals before a special People's Court ends. Three men are found guilty and sentenced to death for the murder of 122 Hungarian Jews. A fourth man is sentenced to eight years of hard labor.

Romania – August 17-19, 1945 (PIR)

The political representatives of the U.S. and the U.K. in Bucharest, Roy Melbourne and John Le Rougetel, remit to King Mihai I diplomatic notes reminding him that western governments do not recognize the Groza government because it is unrepresentative. In these conditions, the two Allies will not re-establish diplomatic relations with Romania.

Bulgaria / U.K. / U.S. – August 18, 1945 (LBC)

The U.S. State Department informs Bulgaria that in its view Prime Minister Kimon Georgiev's administration does not properly represent the Bulgarian people and it has not taken the necessary steps to make the elections to be held on August 16 open for all democratic elements. The State Department claims that the United Kingdom has a similar view of the situation.

Hungary – August 18, 1945 (HC)

The number 6650/1945 order of the government on the organization of the 8-class elementary schools, and the number 6660/1945 order on the opening of the Law and Political Science college departments for women are issued.

Hungary – August 18-20, 1945 (REV)

Arthur Schoenfeld, the head of the U.S. political mission attached to the Allied Control Commission, handles over to the speaker of the Provisional National Assembly, Béla Zsedényi, the Holy Right Hand of St Stephen, a relic which had been taken to the West by fleeing Arrow-Cross members.

Romania – August 18, 1945 (PIR)

A session of the Political Bureau of the CC of PCR takes place. The discussion includes the factors that contributed to the decline in production, the rationalization of consumption, the gathering of goods and the provision of the army.

Romania / Soviet Union – August 18, 1945 (PLC)

Mihai I, King of Romania, who is diplomatically supported by the United States, calls for the abdication of Prime Minister Petru Groza. Groza refuses to leave, knowing that he enjoys the support of the Soviet regime.

Hungary – August 19-21, 1945 (HC)

The national electoral convention of the Independent Smallholders Party (FKGP) takes place in Budapest.

Bulgaria / Hungary / Romania / U.K. – August 20, 1945 (LBC)

According to British Foreign Secretary Ernest Bevin the governments of Bulgaria, Romania and Hungary are not representative of the majority of the people and it is his impression that one totalitarian regime will be replaced by another.

Romania – August 20, 1945 (PLC)

Mihai I, Romanian King, breaks off all relations with the government and he refuses to sign any decrees or laws for close to half a year (“the strike of the king”) as a sign of protest.

Soviet Union / U.S. – August 21, 1945 (HC)

The United States halts the mass food and military supplies to the Soviet Union. The supplies were delivered under the policy of land-lease. This is the first serious sign of American anti-Soviet policy.

Yugoslavia – August 21, 1945 (ACY)

A decree of August 21 sets up federal and republican Commissions for Religious Affairs to study all questions touching on the external life of religious communities and their relations with each other. The Croatian Commission for Religious Affairs is set up on the same day with Svetozar Rittig as its first president.

Romania / U.S. – August 22, 1945 (KCA)

U.S. Secretary of State Byrnes announces that King Mihai I of Romania, after his failure to achieve recognition from the current Government, has asked the U.S., British, and Soviet Governments to assist in establishing a Romanian Government that might be recognized and eligible to join the United Nations.

Yugoslavia – August 23, 1945 (HC)

The Constitutional Convention of Yugoslavia passes a law about land reform and relocation. Based on this, around 50 thousand Serbian families are moved into the *Voivodina* (Vajdaság) region.

Romania – August 23, 1945 (KCA)

King Mihai I leaves Bucharest, breaking off relations with the Government.

Austria / France / U.K. / U.S. – August 23, 1945 (KCA)

U.S., British, and French troops formally enter Vienna.

Yugoslavia – August 23, 1945 (PLC)

Land reform in Yugoslavia takes place.

Romania – August 23, 1945 (PIR)

The first anniversary of the turn of August 23, 1944 takes place in the presence of the Government, without the participation of king Mihai I.

Romania / Soviet Union – August 24, 1945 (PIR)

Diplomatic relations between Romania and the USSR are raised to the level of embassy.

Soviet Union / U.S. – August 24, 1945 (PLC)

American President Truman orders to end the transfer of military equipment to the Soviet Union.

Bulgaria – August 25, 1945 (KCA)

It is announced in Sofia that, at the recommendation of the Allied Control Commission, elections will be postponed, which is warmly welcomed by leaders in London and Washington.

Yugoslavia – August 25, 1945 (OEH)

The People's Assembly adopts a new law on enemy activities against the people and the state of Yugoslavia. The law makes it possible to confiscate the property of those convicted. It means the beginning of the nationalization of the industry in Yugoslavia.

Romania – August 26, 1945

The Groza government states its position towards the royal strike by means of an official communiqué, maintaining that it will not resign.

Hungary / Soviet Union – August 27, 1945 (REV)

A Hungarian delegation headed by Ernő Gerő and András Bán sign a Hungarian-Soviet Economic Agreement in Moscow. This prescribes the exchange of goods worth \$30 million up to the end of 1946. The agreement is ratified by the National High Council on December 20, after a long public debate and numerous protests.

Hungary – August 28, 1945 (HC)

At the convention of Angyalföld, Mátyás Rákosi, the General Secretary of the Hungarian Communist Party, announces that the two workers' parties will enter the Budapest municipal elections of October together.

Romania – August 29-30, 1945 (PIR)

The congress of the Union of artists, writers and journalists takes place in Bucharest. A leadership committee is elected and the affiliation to the General Confederation of Labor, under PCR control, is decided upon.

Hungary – August 30, 1945 (HC)

The Communist philosopher György Lukács arrives in Hungary from the Soviet Union after 25 years of emigration.

Czechoslovakia – August 30, 1945 (KCA)

President Benes signs a decree setting up a Provisional National Assembly.

September 1945**Germany, Soviet Occupied Zone – September 1945 (KCA)**

An agreement on extensive land reform is reached. The junker lands are eliminated as a part of the land reform.

Yugoslavia/Hungary – September 1945 (HC)

In the region of the Yugoslavian *Voivodina*, (Vajdaság) 34,782 students open the school year in 732 Hungarian language elementary schools. In 4 Hungarian language middle- and 4 upper high schools 6,082 students study.

The Hungarian Theatre of Vajdaság opens in Szabadka. (In 1951 it joins the Croatian Folk Theatre.)

Soviet Union / U.K. / U.S. – September 1, 1945 (LBC)

President Truman terminates all lend-lease shipments to the USSR and Great Britain.

Soviet Union – September 2, 1945 (KCA)

Stalin broadcasts a message to the Russian people announcing the end of the war, the unconditional surrender of Japan and the Soviet occupation of Japanese Sakhalin and the Kuriles.

Soviet Union / Bulgaria / U.S. – September 3, 1945 (CWC)

Maynard Barnes, the American Representative in Sophia writes to Secretary of State James Byrnes that the Soviet Union was interfering in the Bulgarian elections to make certain the government remained subservient to the Soviet Union. Barnes reports that the Yalta agreements would become worthless if the Soviet Union succeeded in Bulgaria.

Soviet Union – September 3, 1945 (KCA)

The Red Army paper, *Red Star*, announces the creation of the officers' clubs exclusively for the use of Red Army officers.

Romania – September 4-13, 1945 (PIR)

A Romanian governmental delegation (composed of Petru Groza, Gh Tătărescu, Gh. Gheorghiu-Dej, Șt. Voitec, M. Ghelmegeanu, B. Șchiopu, M. Solacolu) visits Moscow, discussing several problems regarding the bilateral reports, the peace

treaty, the economic accords, the royal strike, the repatriations, the question of the prisoners of war, the armistice conditions, etc.

Soviet Union – September 4, 1945 (HC)

The Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Soviet Union orders the elimination of the State Defence Committee (led by Stalin) and the Council of Peoples Commissars will take over its power. The elimination of the war administration begins.

Hungary – September 5-13 1945 (REV)

The Budapest session of the Provisional National Assembly passes legislation of fundamental importance on land reform, the armistice agreement and jurisdiction of the people. On September 15, the electoral law is passed.

Austria – September 5, 1945 (KCA)

It is reported from Innsbruck, capital of Austrian Tirol and headquarters of the French zone of the country, that Provisional Governor Gruber appealed to Allied leaders to allow a plebiscite to be taken in South Tirol, so that the German-speaking part of that area, may be reunited with Austria.

Yugoslavia – September 6, 1945 (KCA)

It is announced that the Vojvodina Autonomous Region is constituted as a part of the federal structure of the Yugoslav State, and that it will have a regional parliament and other branches of government and will ensure all of its citizens equal rights.

Austria – September 8, 1945 (KCA)

It is announced that on behalf of the Austrian Provisional Government, Prime Minister Renner communicated to the Allied Control Council the Austrian wish to reunite with South Tirol.

Soviet Union / Romania / U.S. – September 8, 1945 (CWC)

An editorial in *Izvestia* accuses the United States and the United Kingdom of interfering in Romania's internal affairs.

Bulgaria – September 9, 1945 (KCA)

The Bulgarian Government introduces a more liberal election policy, providing greater freedom to opposition parties. It allows opposition parties to become legal political parties, publish newspapers, and conduct election campaigns. The measures do not satisfy the opposition forces who demand the resignation of the entire government, as well as appointments of non-communists to the posts of the ministers of Interior and Justice. In addition, they demand the restoration of the independence of the courts.

Romania – September 10-13, 1945 (PIR)

The Martial Court holds the trials of alleged terrorist organizations and of the ‘liberal youth’.

Austria – September 11, 1945 (KCA)

The Allied Control Council holds its first meeting in Vienna.

Allied Forces – September 11-October 2, 1945 (PLC/REV)

The first meeting of the Council of Foreign Ministers in London. The United States does not recognize the legitimacy of the Romanian and the Bulgarian governments, which are supported by the Soviet Union. During the talks about Italy the Soviet Union asks for control over Libya, 100 million dollars reparation payments and to give Trieste to Yugoslavia. The United States presses for free elections in Hungary, Bulgaria and Romania.

Germany, Soviet Occupied Zone – September 12, 1945 (KCA)

The Soviet authorities announce the establishment of centralized administration under Soviet supervision.

Finland – September 12, 1945 (KCA)

The Finnish parliament approves the government’s bill for setting up a Special Court for the punishment of war politicians and criminals.

Romania – September 12, 1945 (KCA)

A statement is issued that negotiations with the Soviet Union had been concluded and had resulted in a relaxation of the Armistice terms and Romania’s economic obligations towards the USSR.

Poland / U.K. – September 13, 1945 (KCA)

It is announced from London that an Anglo-Polish agreement had been reached on the question of repatriation of Polish troops under British command in the U.K., Germany, Italy and the Middle East.

Hungary – September 13-15, 1945 (HC)

The first Congress of the Hungarian Alliance of Democratic Youth (MADISZ) takes place.

Soviet Union – September 13, 1945 (KCA)

A report is published on the “material damage caused by the German-Fascist invaders to State enterprises and institutions, collective farms, public bodies, and Soviet citizens.”

Yugoslavia – September 13, 1945 (KCA)

Alexander Cincar-Markovitch is arrested.

Hungary – September 15, 1945 (REV)

A government order makes the printing of press materials with a political purpose contingent on a permit from the Press Department of the Prime Minister's Office.

Romania / Bulgaria / Hungary – September 15, 1945 (PIR)

At the Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs in London (September 11th – October 2nd), V.M. Molotov presents the drafts of the peace treaties with Romania, Bulgaria and Hungary.

Romania / Poland – September 15, 1945 (KCA)

Moscow announces that the Polish Government has agreed to resume diplomatic relations with Romania.

Soviet Union – September 16, 1945 (PLC)

The Lenin mausoleum on the Red Square is reopened, after his sarcophagus was returned to Moscow in April.

Poland / Vatican – September 16, 1945 (PLC)

The Polish government denounces the 1925 concordat with the Vatican, as it refuses to recognize the new Polish borders.

Yugoslavia / Council of Foreign Ministers – September 17, 1945 (OEH)

In a note to the Conference of Foreign Ministers in London, the Yugoslav government demands the Slovenian coastline, Trieste, the Istrian Peninsula, Fiume, Zara and the Dalmatian islands from Italy.

Yugoslavia – September 17-22, 1945 (ACY)

The Catholic Bishop's Conference meets in plenary sessions. On September 20 it issues a pastoral letter condemning all ideologies and social systems not based on Christian revelation and strongly criticizing the authorities' steps against the church. It demands complete freedom of the Catholic press, Catholic schools and religious instructions in every level of education, full respect for Christian marriage and the return of every confiscated institution. In a separate circular to the clergy next day, the conference attacks the whole basis of the government's reforms and rejects the separation of church and state.

Romania / Poland – September 18, 1945 (PIR)

Romania establishes diplomatic relations with Poland, at the level of legation.

Hungary – September 19, 1945 (HC)

A committee made up of the representatives of the coalition parties forms to prepare for the peace treaty. It works under the authority of the Foreign Ministry.

Yugoslavia – September 20, 1945 (KCA)

The opposition parties decide to boycott the elections (in the elections people may not vote for parties but only for or against Tito's National Front).

Hungary – September 21, 1945 (HC)

The Hungarian-Romanian Society is formed in Budapest. Its chairman is the composer Zoltán Kodály.

Romania – September 21, 1945 (PIR)

The first organ dedicated to the planning of the economy is created: the Superior Council of the National Economy.

Hungary/ US – September 22, 1945 (HC)

Arthur Schoenfeld, the leader of the American mission working parallel to the Allied Control Commission, gives a note to Foreign Minister János Gyöngyösi. The United States is willing to recognize Hungary with the condition that free elections will be held.

Hungary/ Soviet Union – September 25, 1945 (HC)

On the 25th K. J. Vorosilov, the chairman of the Allied Control Commission informs Béla Dálnoki Miklós that the Soviet Union establishes diplomatic relations with Hungary without any condition.

Germany – September 25, 1945 (KCA)

The Allied Control Council meets in Berlin and issues a proclamation to the German people announcing additional requirements arising from the "complete defeat and unconditional surrender of Germany" as discussed at the Potsdam Conference. The requirements grant the Allies control over German foreign affairs, finance and commerce, and internal transport including ships and aircrafts. The German State will cease to have diplomatic, consular, commercial, and all relations with other States. Military formations and organizations and their organs are completely and finally abolished, and the German acquisition of war materials is forbidden. The proclamation also states that the Germans must carry out the reparations outlined by the Allies.

Germany – September 25, 1945 (PLC)

The Volga Republic of Germans is abolished officially after its informal end in 1941.

Hungary – September 25-October 8, 1945 (HC)

The 1st Congress of the World Alliance of Trade Unions takes place in Paris. The Hungarian delegation is led by István Kossa.

Hungary – September 25, 1945 (REV)

The Democratic People's Party headed by István Barankovics, which split from the earlier Christian Democratic People's Party, announces its programme.

Romania – September 25, 1945 (PIR)

Session of the CC of the PCR during which the problem of establishing Communist control over the army is debated; Ana Pauker, Vasile Luca, Constantin Pârvulescu, Lucrețiu Pătrășcanu and Emil Bodnăraș participate; among others, the party admission of certain generals and high officers (Constantin Vasiliu-Rășcanu, Nicolae Cambrea, Iacob Teclu, and others), the evolution of army purges, and the improvement of the activity of the military section of the CC of PCR are discussed.

Romania – September 25-October 8, 1945 (PIR)

A delegation of the General Confederation of Labor takes part in the works of the World Trade Union Congress in Paris, where the communist-influenced World Trade Union Federation is created.

Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – September 25, 1945 (KCA)

Czechoslovakia and the Soviet Union sign a trade agreement.

Austria – September 26, 1945 (KCA)

The new *Landtag* of Tirol, the first such body to be created in Austria since the war, holds its first meeting in Innsbruck.

Germany – September 26, 1945 (KCA)

President Truman announces that under a decision at the recent Potsdam Conference, the remainder of the German Fleet is to be divided equally between Great Britain, the U.S., and the Soviet Union.

Hungary – September 26, 1945 (HC)

The composer Béla Bartók dies in New York.

Hungary – September 26, 1945 (HC)

The government considers inflation, and raises salaries and pensions by 50%.

Romania – September 26, 1945 (PIR)

During a session of the Council of Foreign Ministers in London, Molotov raises the problem of recognizing the Romanian government.

Hungary / Soviet Union – September 27, 1945 (REV)

The Soviet Union establishes diplomatic relations with Hungary at the level of legation.

Austria / Soviet Union – September 28, 1945 (PLC)

The Soviet-occupied Burgenland province of Austria is formed again.

Romania – September 28, 1945 (PIR)

The government orders the dissolution of internment camps. On the basis of this decision, between October 14 and December 1, 1945 all 1,911 interned in such camps were released, 275 of whom were handed over to courts.

Hungary / U.S. – September 29, 1945 (PLC)

The United States recognizes the Hungarian Government.

Yugoslavia – September 30, 1945 (ABC)

The Pastoral Letter of the Catholic Bishops' Conference is read in churches throughout the country and has a strong effect both in Yugoslavia and abroad.

October 1945

Czechoslovakia / Hungary – October 1945 (KCA)

A trade agreement is signed between Czechoslovakia and Hungary.

Yugoslavia – October 1945 (PLC)

Tito supports the unified Macedonia.

Germany, Soviet Occupied Zone – October 1945 (PLC)

In the Soviet-occupied zone of Germany most industries are nationalized.

Hungary / Yugoslavia – October 1, 1945 (HC)

The Hungarian-Yugoslavian Society is formed in Budapest. (Chairman: Gyula Moór)

Hungary – October 1, 1945 (HC)

The *Haladás* (Progress) newspaper of the Hungarian Radical Party begins to publish. (Editor: Béla Zsolt)

Romania / Czechoslovakia – October 1, 1945 (PIR)

The Romanian and Czechoslovak Governments raise diplomatic relations to the level of legation.

Germany, Soviet Occupied Zone – October 1, 1945 (KCA)

Elementary schools are reopened after a purge of Nazi teachers and teaching materials.

Germany, Soviet Occupied Zone – October 2, 1945 (KCA)

Two Gestapo members are sentenced to death for committing atrocities in a concentration camp near Dresden.

Yugoslavia – October 2, 1945 (ABC)

Private schools in Croatia are dissolved by the adoption of the Law Concerning the Dissolution of Private Schools.

Hungary / U.S. – October 3, 1945 (REV)

The U.S. authorities fly Ferenc Szálasi and ten associates to Hungary. The first group of war criminals is handed over to the Hungarian justice system.

Soviet Union – October 3, 1945 (CWC)

Soviet foreign minister Vyacheslav Molotov blames the Western powers for the break up of the London conference. He denies American claims that the conference broke up because of the inability of the Soviet delegation to consult with Stalin.

Soviet Union – October 5, 1945 (KCA)

President Kalinin signs a decree announcing elections for a new Supreme Soviet to be held on February 10, 1946.

Yugoslavia / Romania – October 5, 1945 (WBA)

The Yugoslav-Romanian Provisional Committee for the management of the affairs of the Iron Gate Administration on the Danube is founded by agreements between the two countries.

Poland / Soviet Union – October 6, 1945 (PLC)

The Soviet Union gives Poland Stettin and the Oder horn from its German occupation zone.

Hungary – October 7, 1945 (HC)

Municipal elections take place in Budapest. The division of the 240 municipal members: 122 Independent Smallholders Party (FKGP), 51-51 Hungarian Communist Party and Hungarian Social-Democratic Party. 9 Civil Democratic Party, 9 National Peasant Party, 2 Hungarian Radical Party members.

Yugoslavia – October 8, 1945 (KCA)

Subasic, the Foreign Minister, and Juraj Sutej, Minister without Portfolio, resign claiming that the Tito-Subasic agreement has not been carried out. Marshal Tito replies to the resignation with accusations of Subasic provoking foreign intervention on internal Yugoslav affairs.

Romania / Poland – October 10, 1945 (PIR)

The Association for Romanian-Polish friendship is created in Bucharest.

Finland – October 11, 1945 (KCA)

Minister of Education Helo, who had just recently visited Moscow, announces that upon hearing about Finland's critical economic situation, Stalin offered the country a prolongation of the repayment of reparations from 6 to 8 years.

Bulgaria – October 11, 1945 (KCA)

The opposition parties boycott the elections, believing that as long as the

government's authority rests in the Communist party alone, genuinely free elections are impossible.

China – October 11, 1945, (REV)

The Chinese Civil War begins.

Romania / Bulgaria – October 12, 1945 (PIR)

Romania signs an economic agreement with Bulgaria.

Hungary – October 12, 1945 (HC)

The leadership of the Social-Democratic Party convenes in Budapest. It declares that it will keep the unity of the workers, and will run independently in the general elections of November.

Hungary / Soviet Union – October 13, 1945 (HC)

Marshall K. J. Vorosilov announces that the Soviet government is willing to receive the historian Gyula Szekfű as Hungary's envoy to the Soviet Union.

Austria – October 15, 1945 (PLC)

The Western Allies recognize Karl Renner's government ("the Russian government in Vienna").

Hungary – October 16, 1945 (REV)

Marshal Kliment Voroshilov, chairman of the Allied Control Commission, calls in the leaders of the coalition parties for talks on running a joint list in the approaching general elections. The proposal is rejected by the Independent Smallholders' Party (FKGP), but strong pressure from Voroshilov forces it to agree a few days later to form a coalition government, regardless of the election results and to award the Interior and Transport ministries to the Hungarian Communist Party (MKP).

Romania / Soviet Union – October 16, 1945 (KCA)

The formation of a Soviet-Romanian shipping company takes place.

Yugoslavia – October 16, 1945 (KCA)

In view of Subasitc's resignation, the U.S. Government announces its intention of not recognizing the Yugoslav elections.

Finland – October 16, 1945 (KCA)

The Bank of Finland announces a further devaluation of the Finnmark by approximately 12.5%.

Romania – October 16-17, 1945 (PIR)

In the building of the Chamber of Deputies in Bucharest, the General Congress of Orthodox priests and servants of all cults in Romania takes place. It is the first time

in the country's history when Orthodox, Catholic, Uniate, Reformed, Mosaic and Muslim priests come together.

Romania – October 16-21, 1945 (PIR)

The General Conference of the PCR takes place in Bucharest, resulting in the election of the Central Committee and a new secretary general in the person of Gheorghe Gheorghiu-Dej.

Soviet Union – October 17, 1945 (PLC)

Northeast-Prussia (today the Kaliningrad region of Russia) becomes officially a part of the Soviet Union.

Soviet Union / U.S. – October 17, 1945 (LBC)

The U.S. and the USSR sign an agreement worth \$350-400 million in lend-lease goods, the shipment of which to the USSR was terminated on September 1. The loan was extended for thirty years at an interest of 2.8%. The first installment is to be paid in nine years.

Hungary – October 18, 1945 (HC)

The memorandum of the Board of Bishops sharply criticizes the people's democracy, and asks its followers not to vote for left-wing parties at the November elections.

France – October 21 1945 (REV)

There is a left-wing victory in the elections to the French National Assembly, with the Communists winning 25% of the votes and the most seats .

Bulgaria / Czechoslovakia – October 21, 1945 (KCA)

Bulgaria signs a trade agreement with Czechoslovakia.

Hungary / Soviet Union / U.K. / U.S. – October 21, 1945 (LBC)

The U.S. and U.K protest against the trade agreement concluded between Hungary and the Soviet Union. The agreement was concluded without consulting the Allied Control Commission and would give the Soviet Union a 50% share in the Hungarian mining and transport sectors. This would facilitate Soviet economic and political penetration in Hungary.

Hungary – October 22, 1945 (HC)

The Allied Control Commission gives back the control of the Hungarian State Railway (MÁV) to Hungary.

Czechoslovakia – October 24, 1945 (KCA)

A plan of a Czechoslovak drastic nationalization program is signed by President Benes, providing for the nationalization of banks, industries, mines and natural resources, large industries in food and drinks and insurance companies.

Czechoslovakia / France – October 24, 1945 (LBC)

A trade agreement is signed between Czechoslovakia and France, according to which France is to ship goods worth 396 million Francs to Czechoslovakia and purchase 906 million Francs worth of commodities.

Soviet Union / U.S. – October 24, 1945 (CWC)

United States Ambassador to the Soviet Union, Averell Harriman, meets with Stalin to discuss the break down of the London meeting of the Council of Foreign Ministers. Stalin assures Harriman that the Soviet Union and the Western Powers will come to an agreement and that peace treaties could soon be signed.

Yugoslavia – October 24, 1945 (KCA)

The Christening of the Crown Prince of Yugoslavia takes place in the Westminster Abbey.

Romania / Soviet Union – October 25, 1945 (KCA)

Formation of joint Soviet-Romanian oil company.

Soviet Union / Finland – October 26, 1945 (PLC)

Finnish-Soviet treaty about the rental of the Porkkala military base for 50 years is agreed upon. The Petsamo area becomes a part of the Soviet Union, Finland loses its last open exit to the Barents sea.

Romania – October 26, 1945 (PIR)

The Secretariat of the CC of PCR discusses the preparation of property titles for those who had received land following the agrarian reform, and the replacement of the Administrative Council of the National Bank of Romania.

Romania – October 26, 1945 (PIR)

The Council of Ministers authorizes the functioning of the Romanian-Soviet Bank (Sovrombanc), with a capital of 1,200 million lei.

Romania – October 27, 1945 (PIR)

The Minister of National Education announces the start, as of November 15, of an action with permanent character for fighting illiteracy among the population.

Czechoslovakia – October 28, 1945 (KCA)

The Provisional National Assembly meets for the first time and confirms Benes as the President of Czechoslovakia.

Romania – October 29-31, 1945 (PIR)

The Congress of mathematicians in Romania takes place in Bucharest.

Hungary – October 29, 1945 (HC)

The People's Court begins the trial of ex-Prime Minister László Bárdossy. His trial

is the first of all the war criminals. (13 November: he is sentenced to death, he is executed on 10 January 1946)

Hungary – October 29–November 10, 1945 (HC)

The World Youth Conference takes place in London. The World Alliance of Democratic Youth is formed.

Czechoslovakia – October 29, 1945 (KCA)

All foreign trade in Czechoslovakia is brought under state control.

Czechoslovakia / Yugoslavia – October 29, 1945 (KCA)

A trade agreement is signed with Yugoslavia.

Romania – October 31, 1945 (PIR)

The newspapers announce the repatriation from the USSR of 30,000 Romanian prisoners of war.

November 1945

Albania / Bulgaria – November 1945 (PLC)

Albania and Bulgaria reestablish their diplomatic relations.

Hungary / Romania – November 1945 (HC)

During his trip to Transylvania, Romanian Prime Minister Groza expresses willingness to form a Romanian-Hungarian customs union.

Soviet Union – November 1, 1945 (KCA)

Soviet Foreign Minister Molotov rejects British and American press correspondents' protests against Soviet censorship.

Austria / Switzerland – November 2, 1945 (KCA)

It is officially announced in Bern that Switzerland recognizes Renner's Government in Austria and hopes to resume normal diplomatic relations.

Hungary – November 2, 1945 (HC)

G. M. Puskin, Soviet envoy in Budapest, presents his credentials to the Council of Ministers.

Romania / Soviet Union – November 2, 1945 (KCA)

The mixed Soviet-Romanian Bank and Civil Aviation Companies are formed.

Romania / U.S. – November 2, 1945 (PIR)

American Senator Claude Pepper visits Romania.

Soviet Union – November 2, 1945 (KCA)

The Free German Committee and the Union of German Officers, anti-Nazi

organizations established in the Soviet Union during the war, meet and decide to dissolve themselves on the proposal of their chairmen, Erich Weinert and Gen. von Seidlitz.

Soviet Union / Hungary / U.S. – November 2, 1945 (CWC)

Soviet Union negatively replies to the American note on the Soviet-Hungarian trade pact.

Germany – November 4, 1945 (KCA)

The Allied Control Council issues a law creating an External Property Commission of the four occupying Powers that will assume control of German property of all kinds outside Germany.

Hungary – November 4, 1945 (PLC)

At the first parliamentary election in the Soviet-occupied countries, in Hungary the Smallholder's Party wins with 57% of the vote (245 seats out of 409). The Hungarian Communist Party with 16.9% of the votes is third, after the Social Democratic Party with 17.4% of the votes. The governing parties' deputies agree on the distribution of governmental functions.

Yugoslavia – November 4, 1945 (ACY)

As Archbishop Stepinac arrives at Zapresjæ to open a new parish, he is attacked by a mob that includes men in uniform. They throw stones and eggs at the new administration of the parish and beat them up. The archbishop manages to escape.

Finland – November 6, 1945 (KCA)

Various Finnish politicians are arrested for indictment by the special court set up under the law.

Hungary – November 6, 1945 (HC)

The National Board of the Trade Unions convenes. It demands the nationalization of the banks, great industrial fields, the providing of food, and a 100% increase in salary.

Soviet Union / U.S. – November 6, 1945 (CWC)

Molotov delivers a speech on Soviet foreign policy in Washington praising the Soviet Union's actions in defeating German aggression. The speech stated that the goal of Soviet policy was to rebuild the Soviet Union's economy to match its military needs. The tone of the speech was generally conciliatory to the United States, but warned the Americans not to use its nuclear monopoly to achieve foreign policy goals.

Czechoslovakia – November 6, 1945 (KCA)

Zdenek Fierlinger is reappointed as Prime Minister of Czechoslovakia.

Romania – November 7, 1945 (PIR)

The PCR organizes large rallies in Bucharest (Piața Victoriei, Piața Națiunilor Unite, Piața Universității) dedicated to the day of November 7.

Romania – November 8, 1945 (PIR/PLC)

On King Mihai I's name-day, a large manifestation takes place in Bucharest, organized by the youth sections of the historical parties. Government supporters cause serious incidents, which is enough reason for the troops of the Ministry of Internal Affairs to make arrests from the ranks of the demonstrators and to initiate – in the following days – a campaign against PNT and PNL. According to reports, as a result of the police action 11 people are killed and 85 injured. Investigating the events of November 8th, in the next three days the Ministry of Internal Affairs makes 300 arrests from the ranks of sympathizers of the historical parties.

Romania – November 9, 1945 (PIR)

Romania concludes an economic accord with Czechoslovakia (completed May 4th, 1946)

Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union / U.S. – November 9, 1945 (PLC)

An American-Soviet agreement to pull out from Czechoslovakia is reached. The United States revalidates the 1925 trade preference agreement.

Albania / Soviet Union / U.K. / U.S. – November 10, 1945 (KCA)

The British, American and Soviet Governments recognize the Provisional Albanian Government under Enver Hoxha. The British and American recognition is conditional on the holding of free elections.

Finland – November 10, 1945 (KCA)

The appointments of Vice-President of the Diet Vesterinen to Minister of Agriculture and Communication, and of Social Democratic parliamentary group leader Peltonen, to Minister of Public Works are announced in Helsinki.

Bulgaria – November 10, 1945 (KCA)

The Bulgarian Government decrees the abolition of martial law.

Yugoslavia – November 11, 1945 (KCA/PLC)

General Elections in Yugoslavia result in victory for Tito's National Front.

Romania – November 11, 1945 (PIR)

Diplomatic relations between Romania and Poland are raised to the level of embassy.

Hungary – November 13, 1945 (REV)

The People's Tribunal sentences former Prime Minister László Bárdossy to death. He is executed on January 10, 1946.

Poland – November 13, 1945 (PLC)

In order to integrate the previously German areas, in Poland the “Ministry of the Rejoined Areas” is founded, led by Gomulka.

Romania – November 13, 1945 (PIR)

Scânteia publishes *The Point of view of the Romanian Communist Party regarding Transylvania*. The Government discusses the problems of Romanian science together with some members of the Romanian academia.

Austria / Czechoslovakia – November 14, 1945 (KCA)

It is officially announced in Prague that Czechoslovakia recognizes Renner’s Government in Austria.

Hungary – November 14, 1945 (HC)

A celebration of the Northern Workshop of the MÁV takes place for the occasion of the 500th rebuilt locomotive.

Romania – November 15-18, 1945 (PIR)

The Plenary session of the Hungarian Popular Union expels “reactionary chauvinistic elements” from its ranks and rejects their request regarding the modification of borders.

Hungary – November 15, 1945 (REV)

The Provisional National Government of Prime Minister Béla Dálnoki Miklós resigns after the general elections. Zoltán Tildy of the Independent Smallholders’ Party (FKGP), a clergyman of the Reformed Church, is called upon to form a government. He appoints Imre Nagy of the Hungarian Communist Party (MKP) as Minister of Interior.

Soviet Union – November 16, 1945 (KCA)

The Supreme Soviet issues a decree offering the restoration of Russian citizenship to all former Russian subjects now in Manchuria.

Poland – November 16, 1945

The decrees on “Offenses Particularly Dangerous During the Time of the Reconstruction of the State”, “On Summary Procedure” and “On the Organization and Prerogatives of the Special Commission for Combating abuses and Acts Detrimental to the National Economy” make it easier for the state to resort to penalization.

Hungary / U.S. – November 17, 1945 (LBC)

The United States extends diplomatic recognition to Hungary.

Bulgaria – November 18, 1945 (KCA)

An official announcement is made stating that the U.S. and Bulgaria will resume trade negotiations.

Hungary – November 18, 1945 (HC)

The Petőfi pontoon bridge of Budapest opens.

Romania / US – November 18, 1945 (PLC)

Parliamentary elections in Romania take place. Participation rate: 86.6%. The Patriotic Coalition wins, receiving 88.2% of the votes (258 seats out of 279). The communists win 94 seats, the BNFSZ 96 seats.

The United States had announced on 16 November that it will not recognize the manipulated and single-listed election's results.

Romania – November 19, 1945 (PIR)

The Political Bureau of the CC of the PCR analyzes, together with the representatives of the General Confederation of Labor, the problem of prices, salaries, gatherings and the conclusion of collective work contracts.

Romania / U.S. – November 19-29, 1945 (PIR)

American journalist Mark Ethridge, commissioned by the U.S. government with the drafting of a report regarding the situation in Romania, visits Bucharest, meeting with the king and other political leaders (from the government as well as from the opposition).

Hungary – November 19-21, 1945 (HC)

The first national congress of the Social-Democratic Youth Movement (SZIM) takes place.

Allied forces / Germany – November 20, 1945 (HC)

The International Military Tribunal begins the trials of the Nazi war criminals.

Allied forces / Czechoslovakia – November 20, 1945 (PLC)

The Allies' principles of the relocation of German minorities from Czechoslovakia are accepted, in order to mollify the harsh execution of the Potsdam agreements by local authorities.

Hungary / Germany – November 20, 1945 (REV)

The Allied Control Commission orders the deportation of the Germans in Hungary to Germany. Under a government order of January 15, 1946, all those who declared themselves to be German in the last census are obliged to resettle, as are all former members of a German armed unit or of the Volksbund. Almost 200,000 Hungarian Germans have to leave the country in the period up to 1947.

Germany, Soviet Occupied Zone – November 20, 1945 (KCA)

It is announced that American and British journalists and parliamentary delegates are free to visit and travel the Russian zone of Germany.

Soviet Union – November 22, 1945 (KCA)

An article in *Soviet Weekly* gives the details of plans for the post-war construction of the Crimea, which has been accepted by the Government and put into effect.

Soviet Union / U.S. – November 22, 1945 (CWC)

Ambassador Averell Harriman reports that Russian intellectuals have become more hostile to the West. Russians believe that the United States is trying to keep the Soviet Union from bringing democracy to the Balkans.

Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – November 23, 1945 (KCA)

The cession of Transcarpathian Ukraine (Ruthenia) to the Soviet Union under an agreement made in 1945 is ratified by the National Assembly.

Hungary – November 23, 1945 (HC/REV)

Ex-Prime Minister Béla Imrédy receives death penalty by the People's Court. He is executed on February 28, 1946.

Soviet Union / U.S. – November 23-24, 1945 (CWC)

U.S. Secretary of State Brynes and Molotov agree to a conference of the big three to be held in Moscow.

Romania – November 24, 1945 (PIR)

The Superior Council of the National Economy is formed, annexed to the Presidency of the Government, with the aim of planning, coordinating and applying the economic, financial and social policies of the government.

Austria – November 25, 1945 (PLC)

At the parliamentary elections of the occupied Austria, the National Party receives 49.8% of the votes (85 seats out of 165). The Austrian Socialist Party comes in second with 44.6% of the votes. The Communist Party only gets 5.4% of the votes, but still becomes a part of the coalition government.

Hungary – November 29, 1945 (HC)

The new National Assembly opens. Zoltán Tildy announces the program of his government. Its main objectives: the building of friendly relations with the Soviet Union and the neighbouring countries. In interior politics: the strengthening of the central government, the stabilization of industry and traffic, the completing of land reform, the halt of inflation and the fight against political reaction.

Yugoslavia / Czechoslovakia – November 29, 1945 (KCA)

Yugoslavia signs a trade agreement with Czechoslovakia.

Yugoslavia – November 29, 1945 (KCA)

The Constituent Assembly meets for the first time and decides to proclaim a republic and to deprive King Peter and his dynasty of all rights. King Peter allegedly having “neither the ability nor the necessary will to organise the people’s resistance to the invader”.

Romania – November 30, 1945 (KCA)

U.S. observer Mark Ethridge prematurely ends his visit of the country.

Allied forces / Germany – November 30, 1945 (PLC)

The Allied forces sign a treaty about the connection between the Western Occupied Zones of Berlin and Germany.

December 1945

Yugoslavia – December 1945 (ABC)

Croatian Premier Vladimir Bakariæ proclaims the start of a campaign against the priests at a conference of secretaries of the district committees of KPH for northern Croatia.

Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union / U.S. – December 1, 1945 (KCA)

All Soviet and American troops are withdrawn from Czechoslovakia simultaneously.

Czechoslovakia / Denmark – December 1, 1945 (KCA)

Czechoslovakia signs a trade agreement with Denmark.

France – December 1, 1945 (HC)

The International Alliance of Democratic Women forms in Paris.

Romania – December 1, 1945 (PIR)

The PSD congress decides to participate in the next elections on a separate list.

Albania – December 2, 1945 (PLC)

In Albania the Communist Coalition wins the single-listed constitutional elections with 93.7% of the votes.

Hungary – December 2, 1945 (HC)

The National Council of the Trade Unions holds its first general assembly in Budapest. (Chairman: Ödön Kiss, Social-Democratic Party, secretary general: István Kossa, Hungarian Communist Party)

Hungary / Czechoslovakia – December 3-6, 1945 (HC)

Led by Foreign Minister János Gyöngyösi, a government delegation negotiates in Prague about the exchange of Hungarian and Slovak nationals. The negotiations are unsuccessful.

Hungary – December 6, 1945 (HC)

The National Assembly makes a proposal about the nationalization of the coal mines.

Hungary – December 7, 1945 (HC)

Due to the severe nutritional situation, the workers of the Weiss-Manfred complex of Csepel go on a strike.

Czechoslovakia / Norway – December 8, 1945 (KCA)

Czechoslovakia signs a trade agreement with Norway.

Germany, Soviet Occupied Zone – December 8, 1945 (KCA)

The land reform measures in are completed.

Yugoslavia / U.S. – December 10, 1945 (LUY)

The new Yugoslav government formally informs the United States of its organization, authority, first official acts and its new officers.

Hungary – December 11, 1945 (HC)

The Economic High Council controls the price of the main food products.

Hungary – December 11, 1945 (KCA)

It is announced in Budapest that the Hungarian Government decides to dissolve and liquidate the Soviet-Hungarian trading company formed after the signing of the economic agreement, which had never been ratified by the Hungarian Government.

Yugoslavia – December 11, 1945 (ACY)

The first Croatian seminary in Istria is opened in Pazin by Bishop Santin of Trieste

Hungary – December 12, 1945 (REV)

The Hungarian government has spent a sum of 14,428,925,530 pengős on Allied Control Commission purposes since April 1, 1945.

Hungary – December 14, 1945 (HC)

The Municipal Committee elects József Kővágó Independent Smallholders Party (FKGP) as the mayor of Budapest.

Yugoslavia – December 14, 1945 (KCA)

Yugoslavia demands the return of war criminals, particularly demanding Anton Pavelic and General Nedic.

Romania / Yugoslavia – December 15, 1945 (PIR)

Romania concludes commercial and payment agreements with Yugoslavia.

Soviet Union / Bulgaria / Hungary / Finland / Romania / U.S. / U.K. – December 16-26, 1945 (PLC/PIR/REV/LBC)

The meeting of the Soviet, U.S. and British foreign ministers in Moscow. They agree that the conditions of the peace treaties will be prepared by the Council of Foreign Ministers alone, and not at the peace conference. They agree on the peace treaties to be concluded with the former allies of Germany (Romania, Hungary, Bulgaria, Italy and Finland).

On December 22 the great powers announce an agreement on the broadening of the Romanian and the Bulgarian governments and on their Anglo-American recognition. The foreign ministers agree that the Soviet Union will not take part in the occupation of Japan, that Korea should be placed under joint Soviet-U.S. control for an interim period of five years, and that the Soviet Union should have a part in the control of atomic weapons.

Bulgaria – December 16, 1945 (KCA)

Full diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union are resumed. After the Moscow Conference of the three allied foreign ministers, discussions begin on how to attempt to broaden the basis of the government in accordance with the Moscow suggestions.

Romania – December 17-20, 1945 (PIR)

A conference of regional prefects and of the representatives of the parties from FND takes place in Bucharest.

Hungary – December 18, 1945 (HC)

The People's Court sentences ex-Minister of Interior Andor Jaross, and ex-under-secretaries László Baky and László Endre to death. (They are executed on 11 April 1946, 29 March 1946 and 28 March 1946, respectively.)

In an attempt to stop inflation, the government orders stamping some of the banknotes in circulation. (Without stamping the banknote is invalid or must be redeemed)

Finland / U.S. – December 17, 1945 (KCA)

The United States State Department announces that Finland had, on December 15, 1945, paid the periodic installment of \$258,054 of the Finnish war debt for the war of 1914-1918.

Germany, Soviet Occupied Zone – December 18, 1945 (KCA)

It is announced that the Leuna oil plant, target of many aerial attacks during the war, has been restored and reopened under Russian supervision.

Soviet Union / U.S. – December 19, 1945 [CWC]

Secretary of State James Brynes meets with Stalin to discuss peace treaties, Soviet troops in Iran and the break down of the London Conference.

Austria – December 20, 1945 (PLC)

The Parliament elects Karl Renner to be the President of the Second Republic.

Hungary / Soviet Union – December 21, 1945 (KCA)

The Hungarian Provisional Government ratifies the economic treaty with the Soviet Union, which provides for comprehensive barter trade between the two countries and for the purchase by the Soviet Union of a 50 percent share of Hungarian industrial and commercial industries. This treaty also allows Hungary to conduct similar treaties with other countries.

Hungary / Switzerland – December 21, 1945 (KCA)

It is announced that the Swiss Federal Council officially recognizes the new Hungarian Government and is ready to resume normal diplomatic relations with the country as soon as possible.

Yugoslavia / U.K. / U.S. – December 22, 1945 (KCA)

It is announced that the British and American Governments have recognised the new Republican regime in Yugoslavia.

Soviet Union / U.S. – December 23, 1945 (CWC)

Brynes meets with Stalin for a second time to discuss the Iranian government's threats to bring charges against the Soviet government, the control of Atomic Energy, American troops in northern China, as well as the composition of governments in Bulgaria and Romania.

Soviet Union / U.K. / U.S. – December 23, 1945 (CWC)

The communique of the Moscow conference announces: agreements on peace treaties of the defeated nations of WWII, commissions pertaining to Japan and Korea, the withdrawal of military forces from China, steps to make the Bulgarian and Romanian governments more representative, and support for a United Nations commission on atomic energy.

Hungary – December 24, 1945 (KCA)

At pressure from the Allied Control Commission, the Hungarian Government issues a decree expelling all 500,000 German-speaking inhabitants from Hungary. They are given permission only to take food and clothing with them on their departure. Eventually some 200,000 Germans have to leave the country in 1946-1947.

Soviet Union / France – December 29, 1945 (KCA)

A five-year commercial agreement between France and the Soviet Union is signed in Moscow. The agreement sets up trade missions in both Paris and Moscow, allowing the Soviet Union to export wheat, petroleum, and wood, while allowing France to export wine, perfumes, and certain manufactured goods.

Romania – December 31, 1945 (PIR)

Andrei Vishinski, Averell W. Harriman and Archibald Clark-Kerr, members of the

Inter-Allied Commission delegated to translate into practice the decisions of the Moscow Conference, arrive in Bucharest.

Finland / Soviet Union – December 31, 1945 (KCA)

A Soviet-Finnish agreement is signed in Helsinki extending the delivery period for Finnish reparations to Russia.

Hungary – 1946 (HC)

According to the Central Statistical Office, the population is 9,048,893 people.

Animal stock: Cattle: 1,222,835; Horse: 424,364; Swine: 1,716,828; Sheep: 3,969,100

Electricity supply: 1,279,839,000 kWh

Length of Roads: 31,237 km

Number of vehicles: 28,329

Buses: 177

Trucks: 1,899

Length of railroad track: 8,715 km (of this, 84 km electric)

Number of locomotives: 1,086

Personal cars: 1,488

Goods wagon: 12,768

Length of waterway: 1,104 km

Personal boat: 18

Pulling boat: 12

Diesel boat: 3

Education:

Kindergartens: 1246 (kindergarten teachers: 1,246, kindergarteners: 85,913)

“People’s schools“ and elementary schools: 7,016 (teachers: 29,266, students: 1,032,210)

Apprentice schools: 333 (teachers: 2,586, apprentices: 39,749)

“Civic schools”: 364 (teachers: 3,364, students: 45,057)

Workers’ “civic schools”: 115 (teachers: 855, students: 3,586)

College for kindergarten teachers: 4 (lecturers: 55, students: 499)

Workers’ college for kindergarten teachers: 3 (lecturers: 31, students: 145)

Workers’ teacher’s college: 17 (lecturers: 199 students: 653)

High schools: 310 (teachers: 5,884, students: 75,394)

Workers’ grammar schools: 86 (teachers: 829, students: 3,981)

Workers’ vocational schools: 18 (industry - teachers: 157, students: 557); 11 (trade - teachers: 127, students: 623)

Universities and colleges: 44 (lecturers: 1,311, students: 24, 987)

Evening schools (for workers): 8 (teachers: 44, students: 1,216)

Technical schools: 217 (teachers: 1,927, students: 9,937)

The Territorial radio station in the Carpathian – Ukraine (Ruthenia) begins broadcasting in Hungarian too.

January 1946

Czechoslovakia – January 1946 (HAC/PLC)

The relocation of German minorities from Czechoslovakia begins. By December 1946, 135,655 people move to the American-occupied zone of Germany.

Yugoslavia – January 1946 (RSB)

Husein Čičić, a deputy to the federal assembly from Mostar tried to explain the existence of Slavic Muslims as a separate South Slavic nation in the Yugoslav parliament. The Bosnian Muslims were recognized as a nation only in the 1974 constitution.

Yugoslavia / U.K. – January 1946 (LBY)

The Yugoslav trade delegation that arrives in London makes it clear that Yugoslavia cannot afford to pay off war debts owed to the U.K., which is estimated by the Treasury at £2.5 million.

Hungary – January-February 1946 (HC)

Mass peasant movements begin to operate with the “We don’t give lands back” slogans. Peasant delegations arrive in Budapest from all over the country to stop the attacks on land reform.

Hungary – January 1, 1946 (HC)

The Economic High Council introduces the “adópengő” (a new version of pengő) in order to decrease the value of the highly inflated money with banknotes by now having unpronounceable titles (for example: 1 billion-million pengő or 1,000 billion pengő, etc.).

Romania – January 1, 1946 (PIR)

The members of the Inter-Allied Commission, A.I. Visinski, A.W. Harriman and A. Clark-Kerr, are received by King Mihai I.

Romania – January 2, 1946 (PIR)

The Inter-Allied Commission begins negotiations with the members of the government for the inclusion of representatives of the historical parties.

Poland – January 3, 1946 (PLC)

Decree of nationalization in Poland is passed (making official what has already been done).

Poland / Soviet Union – January 3, 1946 (KCA)

The Polish National Council ratifies the Polish-Soviet population exchange agreement of August 17, 1945, thus establishing Poland’s new Eastern frontier. The Presidium of the Supreme Soviet had ratified the agreement as well. Poles and Jews

living in the area, who had been forced to adopt Soviet nationality during the war, would now be allowed to claim Polish nationality, whilst allowing Ukrainians, Byelorussians, Ruthenians and Lithuanians to claim Soviet nationality. A decree is issued providing for far-reaching nationalization of Polish industries as well as confiscation with no compensation of German-owned enterprises. Compensations will be provided for Polish and foreign (non-German) owners.

Yugoslavia / France – January 3, 1946 (OEH)

The French government officially recognizes Tito's Yugoslavia.

Romania – January 4, 1946 (PIR)

A faction led by Nicolae Lupu breaks from PNT (National Peasant Party).

Hungary / Soviet Union – January 5, 1946 (REV)

The Economic High Council, yielding to Soviet pressure, orders the heads of the ministries and county offices concerned to begin the immediate dismantling of the Mátravidék Power Station at Lőrinci (Heves County). The installations are shipped to the Soviet Union by the end of the following month.

Romania – January 6, 1946 (PIR)

After negotiations between the government and the opposition parties, Emil Hațieganu and Mihail Romniceanu are accepted into the cabinet as representatives of PNT and PNL (National Liberal Party).

Romania – January 7, 1946 (PIR)

The two representatives of the opposition, Emil Hațieganu (PNT) and Mihail Romniceanu (PNL) swear an oath in front of King Mihai I and of prime-minister Petru Groza, as portfolio ministers.

Romania – January 7, 1946 (KCA)

The Romanian Government accepts the Moscow decisions, and issues a statement agreeing to satisfy the conditions required by Britain and the USA in order to obtain official recognition.

Bulgaria / Romania / U.S. / Yugoslavia – January 8, 1946 (LBC)

President Truman at a press conference announces that he reserves the right to revoke even the conditional recognition of Romania, Bulgaria and Yugoslavia in case they fail to guarantee the democratic transformation accepted in Yalta. Yugoslavia's recognition is still tied to guarantees.

Poland / U.S. – January 8, 1946 (LBC)

The U.S. ambassador in Warsaw, Arthur Bliss Lane, does not support Poland's bid for a 500 million dollar loan, since in his view the nationalization of the industry violates the Polish-American commercial treaty of 1931.

Romania – January 8, 1946 (PIR)

The Groza government approves the execution of the decisions adopted by the Moscow Conference, accepting the organization of free elections and promising the freedom of press, speech, religion and right of association.

Romania – January 8, 1946 (PLC)

After an agreement with the Allies, King Mihai stops his “strike” and reestablishes his relation with the government.

Hungary – January 10, 1946 (KCA)

László Bárdossy, the Hungarian Prime Minister at the time of the Hungarian declaration of war on the Soviet Union, is found guilty of high treason.

Hungary – January 10, 1946 (REV)

The first General Assembly of the United Nations convenes in London.

Romania – January 10, 1946 (PIR)

A Journal of the Council of Ministers regarding the implementation of the agrarian reform is published.

Romania – January 10-12, 1946 (PIR)

In the Dalles Hall in Bucharest, the General Congress of the Union of Patriots meets and is reorganized into the National Popular Party, whose elected president is Mitiță Constantinescu.

Yugoslavia – January 10, 1946 (KCA)

Britain hands over General Neditch and Rupnik, the former “quisling” Premier of Slovenia, to Yugoslavia.

Albania – January 11, 1946 (PLC)

The People’s Republic of Albania is proclaimed.

Albania – January 11, 1946 (KCA)

The Tirana Radio announces that the Albanian Constituent Assembly has proclaimed Albania a Republic and deprived the ex-King Zog of his royal rights, forbidding his return.

Hungary – January 12, 1946 (HC)

The announcement of the National Board of Trade Unions and the two worker’s parties about the re-election of the factory committees is published.

Bulgaria – January 13, 1946 (LBC)

Deputy Commissar of Foreign Affairs Andrei Vishinsky announces that attempts to broaden the Bulgarian government failed, because the opposition demanded the transformation of the cabinet, the dissolution of the National Assembly and new elections.

Romania – January 14, 1946 (PIR)

The Democratic Union of the Muslims of Dobrogea is founded.

Romania – January 14, 1946 (LBC)

Romanian Minister of Justice Lucretiu Patrascanu announces that foreign observers may not be present at the national election.

Soviet Union – January 14, 1946 (KCA)

It is announced that the Commissar for the Interior, Lavrenti Beria, has been asked to relieve his duties because of the pressure of other engagements, and that he will be succeeded by Sergei Kruglov.

Romania – January 15, 1946 (PIR)

The Soviet military censorship on mail and telegraph communication is ceased.

Hungary – January 18, 1946 (HC)**Romania – January 19, 1946 (PIR)**

The National Federation of Women in Romania is founded.

Hungary – January 20, 1946 (HC)

The academic magazine of the Hungarian Communist Party, the *Társadalmi Szemle* begins to be published. (editor: Aladár Mód)

Romania – January 20, 1946 (PIR)

The National-Democratic Peasants' Party is created, led by Nicolae Lupu. The *Aurora* newspaper, the media organ of the party, publishes its "Manifest to the country."

Poland – January 22, 1946 (PSN)

A decree on the "Responsibility for the Defeat of Poland in September, 1939 and the Fascisization of Political Life" is signed, giving the state the ability to retroactively charge prewar Polish officials with "weakening the defensive spirit of society." The law stipulates long imprisonment and capital punishment.

Hungary – January 22, 1946 (HC)

The Economic High Council liberates the stockpile of the merchants. It allows the free traffic of potatoes, leguminous plants, chickens, eggs and 40% of industrial goods.

Romania – January 23, 1946 (PIR)

The Romanian Armistice Commission and the General Commissariat for the Execution of the Armistice end their activity; the execution of the clauses of the Armistice Convention will be supervised by the Romanian Commission of liaison with the Allied Control Commission, which will function alongside the Ministry of External Affairs.

Yugoslavia – January 23, 1946 (KCA)

The Yugoslav Government commences a mass expulsion of Germans, in spite of Anglo-American protests.

Soviet Union – January 26, 1946 (KCA)

Moscow Radio broadcasts an official announcement concerning the Yalta agreement and the Soviet annexation of the Kurile Islands and Southern Sakhalin. U.S. Undersecretary of State Dean Acheson says that the agreement provided the Soviet Union with the right to occupy the areas but did not provide the final transfer of these islands to the USSR.

Romania – January 27, 1946 (PIR)

The first congress of the Union of Free Jews takes place.

East Germany – January 29, 1946 (KCA)

The University of Berlin is reopened under Russian supervision and after a purge of Nazi teachers and students.

Czechoslovakia / Vatican – January 30, 1946 (KCA)

Diplomatic Relations between Czechoslovakia and the Vatican are resumed.

Romania – January 31, 1946 (PIR)

The Government approves the law initiative prolonging the deadlines for the purge of public administration (until March 31st) and for the trials of war criminals (until June 1st).

Yugoslavia – January 31, 1946 (PLC)

The founding of the federal government of Yugoslavia, formed out of the six republics of the federal state.

Yugoslavia – January 31, 1946 (KCA)

The Constituent Assembly of Yugoslavia unanimously accepts a motion for its own immediate conversion into National Assembly, accepts the resignation of Marshal Tito, and at the same time charges him with the formation of a new government.

February 1946**Soviet Union – February 1946 (KRI)**

Elections for the Supreme Soviet are held

Hungary – February 1, 1946 (KCA/HC)

The Hungarian National Assembly passes a constitutional bill abolishing the Monarchy and setting up a Republic. Tildy is unanimously elected as the first President.

The re-electing of the factory committees begins in the whole country.

Czechoslovakia – February 1, 1946 (HC)

An order from the Ministry of Interior halts a law on the confiscation of property of the Hungarian ethnic minority.

Yugoslavia – February 1, 1946 (OEH)

A reorganization of the Yugoslav government takes place in Belgrade.

Poland – February 2, 1946 (KCA)

Karl Maria Splett, the Roman Catholic Bishop of Danzig, is sentenced to 8 years imprisonment, 5 years loss of civil rights and confiscation of his property. He is convicted for having used his office “to the detriment of the Polish nation, the Catholic hierarchy, and the civil population.”

Yugoslavia – February 2, 1946 (KCA)

Tito announces his new Government.

Hungary / Poland / Romania – February 4, 1946 (HC)

The President names Ferenc Nagy of the Independent Smallholders’ Party (FKGP) as Prime Minister. No changes occur in the Government.

Hungary and Poland sign an agreement about the exchange of commodities.

In Tirgu Mures (Marosvásárhely), Romania, the (Hungarian language) National Sekler Theatre opens.

Hungary / Poland – February 4, 1946 (KCA)

A Polish-Hungarian trade agreement is signed in Budapest.

Hungary – February 5, 1946 (HC/REV)

The People’s Courts begin the trial of Arrow Cross leader Ferenc Szálasi and his alleged companions. On March 1, all 7 of them receive the death penalty by hanging. On the 12th of March, the verdict is executed.

Romania / U.K. / U.S. – February 5, 1946 (KCA)

The British and American Governments recognize the government of Groza in Romania on the condition of drafting a new electoral law and holding elections.

Yugoslavia – February 5, 1946 (KCA)

The Yugoslavian National Assembly unanimously elects Tito as Commander-in-Chief of the Yugoslav Army.

Romania – February 6, 1946 (PLC)

King Mihail appoints the Petru Groza government.

Soviet Union / U.K. / U.S. – February 6, 1946 (LBC)

In a radio speech Soviet Commissar of Foreign Affairs Molotov declares that “dangerous talk on a third world war is being encouraged” in “the ruling classes of some other countries” He assails British maintenance of “hundreds of thousands of

German soldiers” in their zone of occupation, and allied support of “tens of thousands of troops of Polish Fascist General Anders” in Italy.

Yugoslavia – February 6, 1946 (KCA)

The Yugoslav Ministry of the Interior announces that the “quisling” Premier of Serbia during the war, General Milan Nedic who was to have been tried as a war criminal, committed suicide by jumping out of a third floor window.

Romania – February 7, 1946 (PIR)

The Groza government responds to the notes of the U.S. and British governments of February 5. On Victory Square (Piața Victoriei) an FND demonstration takes place for the recognition of the Groza government by the two allies.

Hungary – February 8, 1946 (REV)

The Tatabánya collieries challenge the country’s miners to a competition (the “battle of coal”) to produce as much coal as possible to ease the catastrophic shortage of fuel.

Romania – February 8, 1946 (PIR)

A note on the Romanian government is published. It contains observations regarding the expected provisions of the Peace Treaty and expresses regret that Romania’s co-belligerence had not been recognized.

Romania – February 9-10, 1946 (PIR)

Following a session, “The Central Executive Committee” of PSD adopts the decision to participate on common lists with the PCR in the elections and calls a congress for March 10.

Soviet Union – February 9, 1946 (CWC)

Stalin gives a speech on the wartime achievements of the Soviet Union and on the war-like doctrine of capitalism. He pledges to increase the fighting strength of the Red Army to prepare for the next war that capitalism causes. Though most likely intended for a domestic audience in order to promote reconstruction, the speech is interpreted by the Western Powers as a threat.

Romania – February 10, 1946 (PIR)

The PCR University “Stefan Gheorghiu” is inaugurated in the presence of prominent party figures such as Chivu Stoica, Gh. Apostol, Iosif Chișinevschi and others. The courses would start a year later.

Soviet Union – February 10, 1946 (PLC)

The first Supreme Soviet elections take place in the Soviet Union since 1937.

Soviet Union – February 11, 1946 (KCA)

The terms of the secret agreement from February 11, 1945, concerning the Soviet Union entering the war against Japan are published.

Romania – February 11-12, 1946 (PIR)

Consultations of the basic female party activists take place. Discussions include: the campaign for preparing the syndicate elections, the World Congress of Women, the forming of the Democratic Federation of Women in Romania, and the role of anti-fascist women in Romania.

Albania – February 12, 1946 (KCA)

King Zog, the ex-King of Albania, leaves from Britain with his family to take residence in Egypt.

Czechoslovakia / Poland – February 12, 1946 (KCA)

A Czechoslovak-Polish agreement is reached, providing for the exchange and restitution of installations looted by the Germans during the war.

Soviet Union – February 12, 1946 (KCA)

The Commissariat of the Interior of the Soviet Union announces that of the total electorate, 99.7% had voted, and that 99.18% of the votes had been cast to the Communist and non-Party bloc.

Poland – February 14, 1946 (PLC)

According to the census, the population of Poland is 23.6 million. 86.9% of the population is Polish, 9.7% is German. The percentage of “verified” (previously German) citizens is 1.7%.

Poland – February 14, 1946 (HDP)

Polish and British representatives agree on the deportation of millions of Germans from Poland to the West.

Romania – February 14, 1946 (PIR)

A session of the Executive Committee of the Plowmen’s Front concludes with the decision to participate in the elections on common lists with the PCR.

Romania – February 14-18, 1946 (PIR)

The trial of “Centrala Evreilor” (The Jewish Central) takes place at the People’s Tribunal. The organization is accused of having chased the Jews during the war.

Hungary – February 16, 1946 (HC)

A rally of the Hungarian Communist Party takes place in Budapest. Mátyás Rákosi informs the public about the party’s plans to halt inflation, purify the administration, introduce state control of the banks and state maintenance of heavy

industry, to defend the land reform, nationalize the production of oil and other raw materials and, last, increase the working peasants' condition.

Romania – February 17, 1946 (PIR)

Romania and the Netherlands resume diplomatic relations at the level of legation.

West Germany – February 17, 1946 (PLC)

In the Western occupied zones of Germany a decree allows democratic parties to take part at the local elections.

Romania – February 19, 1946 (PIR)

Students of the parties PNL-Tătărescu, PCR, PSD, Frontul Plugarilor, PNT-Anton Alexandrescu, and the National Popular Party decide to found the University Democratic Front (Frontul Democrat Universitar).

Romania – February 20-21, 1946 (PIR)

The People's Tribunal tries more war criminals: members of the Horia Sima government and journalists accused of "Hitlerist propaganda".

Yugoslavia – February 20, 1946 (WBA)

A protocol on the establishment of border traffic between Yugoslavia and Albania is signed in Belgrade.

Hungary – February 21, 1946 (HC)

A meeting of the Assembly of the Iron and Metal Workers takes place in Budapest. It demands the removal of "reactionary elements" and the decrease of the oversized national administration.

Hungary / US – February 21, 1946 (HC)

Hungary receives \$10 million in loans from the U.S. to purchase equipment from the U.S. Army's European stockpiles.

Czechoslovakia – February 21, 1946 (HC)

Czechoslovakian general elections are announced. However, citizens of Hungarian origin are deprived of the right to vote.

Romania – February 21, 1946 (PIR)

At the suggestion of Minister of Finance Alexandrini, the government raises the salaries and pensions of public and military employees by 100%.

Bulgaria / Soviet Union /US – February 22, 1946 (PLC)

The U.S. demands Bulgaria to broaden the government. The Soviet Union rejects the American demands in a March 8 response.

Romania – February 22-March 1, 1946 (PIR)

The trial of General Constantin Voiculescu, former governor of Bessarabia (1941-1943) and head of the Gendarmerie in Bessarabia, takes place.

Hungary – February 23, 1946 (HC)

Agricultural Minister Béla Kovács resigns. His successor is István Dobi (ex-Minister of State). István Dobi's successor is István B. Szabó as a Minister of State. Nearly 10 thousand workers in front of the Parliament building in Budapest demand the removal of reactionary elements from the civil service as well as the participation of representatives of the trade unions in various delegations (which are selecting public servants who must be dismissed from state positions because of their behavior during the ancient regime).

Bulgaria – February 24, 1946 (KCA)

It is reported that Kristu Pastukov, leader of the opposition Social-Democratic Party, has been arrested on charges of sowing discontent in the Army.

Romania – February 24, 1946 (PIR)

PNL-Dinu Brătianu organizes a reunion of the liberals in Câmpulung Muscel, one year after the manifestation of February 24, 1945.

Soviet Union – February 25, 1946 (KCA)

Moscow radio announces that the Commissariat of Defense and the Soviet Navy have merged into a single Commissariat of the Armed Forces of the USSR, headed by Marshal Stalin.

Soviet Union – February 25, 1946 (KRI)

The Red Army changes its name to the Soviet Army.

Soviet Union – February 26, 1946 (KCA)

With immediate effect, price cuts between 50 and 75 percent are introduced for necessary foodstuffs.

Hungary / Czechoslovakia – February 27, 1946 (REV)

An agreement on a Hungarian-Czechoslovak population exchange is signed. The Czechoslovak authorities may send as many Hungarian deportees to Hungary as Slovaks volunteer to move from Hungary to Czechoslovakia. Subsequently, cc. 70,000 Hungarians are resettled in Hungary from Czechoslovakia.

Soviet Union / Mongolia – February 27, 1946 (KCA)

A treaty of friendship and mutual assistance, as well as of economic and cultural convention, is signed between the Soviet Union and Mongolia.

Hungary – February 28, 1946 (KCA)

Béla Imrédy, former Prime Minister and Finance Minister of Hungary, is found

guilty of high treason for collaboration with the enemy and promulgation of anti-Semitic legislation.

Soviet Union – February 28, 1946 (KCA)

Marshal Semyon Timoshenko is appointed as the Soviet Minister to Ethiopia, Sadcikov as the Soviet Minister to Iran, and Jakov Suris as the first Soviet Ambassador to Brazil.

March 1946

Soviet Union – March 1946 (KRI)

L.P. Beria and G.M. Malenkov are made full Politburo members. A.N. Kosygin and N.A. Bulganin are appointed as candidates to membership in the Politburo. M.A. Suslov is given the responsibility for analysis and propaganda for the Central Committee.

Romania / Turkey / Yugoslavia – March 1, 1946 (PIR)

Diplomatic relations between Romania and Turkey, and between Romania and Yugoslavia are raised to the level of embassy.

Hungary – March 3, 1946 (HC)

The National Board of the Hungarian Youth (MIOT) forms in Budapest. Its objective is to unite the youth of the workers, peasants and students.

Hungary – March 4, 1946 (HC)

The People's Court begins the trial of ex-Prime Minister Döme Sztójay and four of his Ministers. Sztójay, Jenő Rátz, Lajos Reményi-Schellner, Lajos Szász receive the death penalty while the 4th Minister Antal Kunder is sentenced to life imprisonment in a forced labour institution. The death penalty of Rátz is changed to life imprisonment by the President. On 23 August the plea for clemency is refused. The verdicts are executed on 24 August.

Romania – March 4-6, 1946 (PIR)

The first Congress of Women in Romania takes place in the presence of some foreign delegations. The Democratic Federation of Women in Romania is constituted.

Hungary March 5, 1946 (REV/HC)

The Hungarian Communist Party (MKP), the Social Democratic Party (SZDP), the National Peasants' Party (NPP) and the Trade-Union Council form the Left-Wing Bloc, declaring in a joint statement that they are prepared to cooperate only with the 'democratic elements' in the Independent Smallholders' Party (FKGP). They demand the defense of land reform, the purification of the administration, the nationalization of the oil fields and bauxite mines, the nationalization of the main

factories of heavy industry, and the nationalization of the banks. Their action marks the beginning of the “salami tactics” that lead to the break-up of the Smallholders.

Romania – March 5, 1946 (PIR)

The Ministry of Propaganda is transformed into the Ministry of Information (minister: Petre Constantinescu-Iași), which controls The National Office of Tourism, the National Cinematographic Office, the Romanian Society of Radio broadcast, the State Publishing House, and others.

Soviet Union – March 5, 1946 (LBC)

Winston Churchill’s cold war speech in Fulton, Missouri: “*An iron curtain*” has “descended across the Continent”. – The March 11 response of Pravda calls Churchill a warmonger and declares that his recommendation amounts to the formation of an Anglo-American military alliance in order to dominate the world and “liquidation” of the three-power coalition and the United Nations. - *March 13*. Stalin’s interview in Pravda: Churchill’s speech is “incompatible” with the Anglo-Soviet treaty and says his charge that East European countries are all subjected to the “increasing control of Moscow” is “rudely and shamelessly” libelous; “if Churchill and his friends not only in England but also in the United States” succeed in organizing a new military expedition against Eastern Europe, “which is not very probable”, then “they will be beaten”.

Yugoslavia / Italy – March 5, 1946 (KCA)

British foreign minister Bevin announces that the Council of Foreign Ministers has appointed a commission of experts to make recommendations on the boundary between Italy and Yugoslavia. The boundary will mainly follow the ethnic line, leaving minimum population under foreign rule.

Soviet Union – March 6, 1946 (KCA)

Ministers Molotov, Shvernik and Zhdanov are awarded the Order of Lenin.

Romania – March 6, 1946 (PIR)

The first anniversary of the Groza government takes place in the Aro Hall, in the presence of all the members of the Cabinet.

Hungary – March 7, 1946 (HC) (REV)

The great assembly of the Hungarian Communist Party, the Social-Democratic Party, the National Peasant Party and the trade unions takes place in Heroes’ Square. It presses for the demands of the Left Wing Bloc, and the removal of reactionary elements of the FKGP. The Smallholder politicians István Dobi and Gyula Ortutay issue a statement of support for the Bloc’s demands.

Hungary – March 7 1946 (REV)

József Lakos, former police chief of Szentes, is murdered in Szentes Hospital by members of the communist R Guard. Lakos had been freed on February 19

following a parliamentary question by Dezső Futó. (Imre Dadi, Csongrád County Secretary of the Hungarian Communist Party (MKP) who ordered the murder, is freed at the end of January 1948 under a general pardon after a short period on remand).

Hungary / Soviet Union / U.S. – March 7, 1946 (LBC)

According to the U.S. the Soviets caused \$2,5 million worth of damage by assuming operation of the oil field of Lispe in Hungary.

Bulgaria / Soviet Union / U.S. / U.K. – March 8, 1946 (LBC)

In response to a note by the U.S., in which it requested the broadening of the Bulgarian government by two members who are acceptable to the opposition, the Soviet Union announces that the U.S. is violating the London agreement and that the note was delivered without consultation of the governments involved.

Soviet Union / U.S. / U.K. – March 8, 1946 (LBC)

Referring to Churchill's Fulton speech that calls for Anglo-American cooperation to defend common interests, Byrnes affirms that the U.S. wants an alliance neither with Britain nor the USSR.

Soviet Union – March 8, 1946 (KRI)

Under pressure from the state, the Ukrainian Uniat Church severs its ties with Rome and becomes absorbed into the Orthodox Church.

Hungary / Soviet Union – March 9, 1946 (KCA)

The Hungarian Government approves an air agreement with the Soviet Union, setting up a joint air transport corporation.

Hungary – March 9-11 1946 (REV)

Under pressure from the Left Wing Bloc, the Independent Smallholders' Party (FKGP) expels 20 members of Parliament from its ranks, including Vince Nagy, Dezső Sulyok and István Vásáry. Béla Kovács is appointed editor of the party paper, the *Kis Újság*, in place of Count Gyula Dessewffy.

Romania – March 10, 1946 (PIR)

The Congress of PSD decides, with 232 votes for and 29 against, the participation in the election on common lists with the governmental Bloc.

Hungary – March 11-12, 1946 (HC)

The first national congress of the National Peasant Party takes place in Budapest. (president: Péter Veres, vice-president: Ferenc Erdei and Imre Kovács, the position of secretary general is ceased.)

Finland – March 11, 1946 (PLC)

Paasikivi becomes the President of Finland after Mannerheim (1946-1956).

Bulgaria – March 12, 1946 (PLC)

Decree of land reform in Bulgaria is issued.

Hungary – March 12 1946 (REV/HC)

Parliament passes legislation providing penal-law protection for the democratic system of government and the republic. This later provides the legal grounds for show trials.

Hungary – March 12, 1946 (KCA)

Ferenc Szálasi, the leader of the Hungarian Nazi movement and anti-Semitic Arrow Cross party is hanged.

Poland – March 12, 1946 (KCA)

The Polish Security Police raids the Peasant Party headquarters.

Yugoslavia – March 13, 1946 (LUY)

Ranković announces in the Peoples' Assembly that Mihailović is captured and will be tried.

Soviet Union – March 13, 1946 (KCA)

Stalin strongly criticizes Churchill's speech at Fulton, U.S., in which Churchill condemns the trend of contemporary Soviet policy. Stalin calls Churchill's speech "a dangerous act" and a "call for war on the USSR."

Albania / Yugoslavia – March 14, 1946 (PLC)

The Albanian People's Republic's Constitution, following the Yugoslav model, is accepted.

Poland / Yugoslavia – March 15 – 16, 1946 (KCA)

Tito pays an official government visit to Poland, and a Polish-Yugoslav treaty of friendship and mutual aid is signed.

Poland – March 15, 1946 (KCA)

An official statement announces the prohibition of all activities, the closing of the offices and the arrest of the leaders of the National Peasant Party in the provinces of Wloszczow and Grojec.

Soviet Union – March 15, 1946 (KCA)

Stalin tenders the resignation of his Government and is asked to form a new Administration by the Supreme Soviet. In the new government the title: people's commissar is changed to minister.

A detailed report about the first post-war Five-Year-Plan of the Soviet Union is presented to the Supreme Soviet. The main objectives of the plan are "to rehabilitate the war-devastated districts, restore industry and agriculture to the pre-war level, and considerably surpass that level".

Romania – March 16, 1946 (PIR)

The CC Plenary of PSD excludes the Titel Petrescu-group from the leadership of the party, securing it for the faction Lothar Rădăceanu-Ștefan Voitec.

Poland / U.K. – March 16, 1946 (KCA)

After months of discussing the details of the repatriation of Polish troops serving under British command, the British Government decides to demobilize all such Polish forces.

Soviet Union – March 17, 1946 (KCA)

An article in the *New York Times* points out that during the war the territory of the Soviet Union increased from 8,241,921 sq. miles to 8,515,000 sq. miles, while the population increased from 170,000,000 to 194,000,000.

Poland – March 18, 1946 (KCA)

Poland joins the European Coal Organization.

Soviet Union – March 18, 1946 (KRI)

The Fourth Five-Year-Plan, “for the Restoration and Advancement of the Economy of the USSR”, is adopted.

Soviet Union – March 19, 1946 (KCA)

Due to failing eyesight, Mikhail Kalinin resigns from the post of Chairman of the Supreme Soviet, to be succeeded by Nikolai Shvernik.

Hungary – March 20 1946 (REV)

Imre Nagy is replaced as Interior Minister by László Rajk, who holds the position until August 1948.

Romania – March 20, 1946 (PIR)

The Romanian-Soviet accord on the creation of the Sovromlemn (SOVROM – wood) is signed at the Ministry of Agriculture and Domains.

Czechoslovakia / Yugoslavia – March 20-23, 1946, (KCA)

Tito visits Czechoslovakia. During the conversations it is agreed that there should be preparations for a Czechoslovak-Yugoslav treaty.

Czechoslovakia – March 22, 1946 (KCA)

Karl Hermann Frank, “Reichs-Protector of Bohemia and Moravia” during the war, appears before a court for trial as a war criminal. The defendant is accused of ordering the Lidice massacre and other atrocities, attempting to “Germanize” the Czech provinces and acting in the interest of the enemy. As Frank is a Sudeten German, he is allowed to give evidence in German.

Hungary – March 22, 1946 (KCA/REV)

Döme Sztójay, former Prime Minister of Hungary, is executed by a firing squad on August 24.

Hungary / Soviet Union / U.S. – March 22, 1946 (LBC)

The U.S. military mission in Hungary delivers a note in which it demands the removal of Soviet personnel from the U.S.-owned oil fields and the return of the wells to U.S. control.

Poland / UK – March 22, 1946 (KCA)

Bevin announces that arrangements will be made for those demobilized Polish troops serving under British colors who wish not to repatriate to Poland.

Yugoslavia – March 24, 1946 (KCA)

It is announced that General Draha Mihailovic, has been in the hands of the Government since March 13, 1946. Mihailovic, previously Minister of War and the leader of the *Chetnik* guerrillas, was accused of collaborating with the German occupation forces and using his *Chetniks* against Tito's partisans.

Soviet Union – March 27, 1946 (CWC)

The Soviet Union boycotts the UN Security Council because it refuses to participate in debates over Soviet-Iranian border disputes.

Romania – March 28, 1946 (PIR)

Minister of Communications and Public Works G. Gheorghiu-Dej is appointed president of the Superior Council of the National Economy.

Hungary / Soviet Union / France / U.S. / U.K. – March 28, 1946 (HC)

At the meeting of the representatives of the four great powers, Soviet Ambassador Gusev proposes plans for a peace treaty with Hungary.

Hungary / Soviet Union – March 29, 1946 (HC)

Hungary and the Soviet Union sign an agreement about the establishment of the Hungarian-Soviet Shipping Company (MESZHART) and the Hungarian-Soviet Civil Air Service Company (MASZOVLET). They are seated in Budapest.

Yugoslavia / U.S. – March 30, 1946 (KCA)

A U.S. note to the Yugoslav Government requests permission for U.S. Army personnel connected with General Mihailovic to testify on his behalf. The request is rejected.

Romania / Yugoslavia – March 30, 1946 (PIR)

Diplomatic relations with Yugoslavia are re-established; the first postwar Ambassador of Romania in Yugoslavia is university professor Tudor Vianu.

Bulgaria – March 31, 1946 (KCA)

Col. Georgiev forms a New “Fatherland Front” Government.

Romania – March 31, 1946 (PIR)

A meeting of protest against the Spanish Franco regime is organized in the Aro Hall.

April 1946

Yugoslavia / Italy – April 1, 1946 (KCA)

For weeks, especially during the visit of the Four-Power Boundary Commission, the situation in Trieste deteriorates considerably and there is tension between the Yugoslav and Italian communities.

Yugoslavia – April 1, 1946 (KCA)

At a joint session of both Houses of the National Assembly, Tito gives a review of Yugoslav foreign policy. According to Tito, Yugoslav foreign policy is based on the following principles: the consolidation of world peace; concentration on Yugoslavia realizing all her rights (including “unjust loss of its territories”); and the consolidation of cultural, political and economic relations with Slavic peoples and the Soviet Union.

Hungary – April 3, 1946 (HC)

The *Szabad Nép* announces that 48 Croatian, 17 Serbian, 10 Slovakian and 4 Romanian language schools will open.

Albania / U.K. – April 4, 1946 (KCA)

The diplomatic relations between Britain and Albania are severed after “unfriendly and un-cooperative attitude adopted by the Albanian Government towards the British representatives in the country”.

Romania – April 4, 1946 (PIR)

The Romanian government terminates diplomatic relations with Spain.

Romania – April 4, 1946 (PIR)

By a decision of the Ministry of National Education, students from all state, confessional and private schools are banned from any political manifestation, both inside schools and outside. All associations and committees composed of students, with the exception of classroom committees and cultural societies, are dissolved.

Poland / Spain – April 5, 1946 (KCA)

The Warsaw radio announces that the Polish Government will recognize and establish diplomatic relations with the Spanish Republican Government in Paris under Jose Giral.

Poland – April 6, 1946 (KCA)

The Polish population is counted to be 23,622,334.

Hungary – April 6-8, 1946 (HC)

The first national congress of the Alliance of Hungarian Democratic Women (MNDSZ) takes place in Budapest.

Hungary / Czechoslovakia – April 6, 1946 (REV)

János Eröss, President of the Reparations Office, and Vladimir Clementis, Foreign Ministry State Secretary, sign the Hungarian-Czechoslovak Reparations Agreement in Prague. Hungary is to make reparation payments worth \$30 million over a six-year period.

Romania – April 8, 1946 (KCA)

The wartime Premier and dictator of Romania, Marshal Ion Antonescu, along with seven others, is handed to the Romanian authorities by the Soviets to be tried as war criminals.

Hungary / Soviet Union – April 8, 1946 (HC)

Hungary and the Soviet Union sign the Oil, Aluminium and Bauxite Agreement. (July 1946: the Hungarian-Soviet Bauxite-Aluminium Company. and Hungarian-Soviet Crude Oil Company are founded.)

Hungary / Romania – April 9, 1946 (HC)

The National Hungarian Music Academy opens in Cluj (Kolozsvár).

Hungary / Soviet Union April 9-18, 1946 (REV/HC/CSB)

A Hungarian delegation headed by Prime Minister Ferenc Nagy visits Moscow. The Soviet Government agrees that Hungary may meet its reparations obligations over eight years instead of six (similar agreements soon follow with the Czechoslovak and Yugoslav governments) and waives the \$6 million interest penalty for commitments not met in the first year. The Soviet Government also promises that the status of the Hungarian prisoner of wars will be sorted, helps that the Hungarian goods - hauled to the West - are delivered back to Hungary. Stalin agrees that Hungarian territorial claims against Romania may be presented at the peace conference implying that such claims would be supported by the Soviet Union, while shortly after the meeting he secretly informs the Romanian government that Moscow considers the 1937 Hungarian-Romanian border final. He also promises to intervene for restoring equal rights for the Hungarian minority in Czechoslovakia, while a few months later at the peace conference Soviet representatives strongly support the demand of Czechoslovakia for the expelling of 200,000 Hungarians from the country.

East Germany – April 10, 1946 (KCA)

It is reported that the land reform program for Brandenburg, the Soviet zone of Germany, has been completed with not one great estate remaining.

Poland – April 9, 1946 (KCA)

With the support of the Polish Government, a League to Combat Racialism is created. It includes representatives of all six political parties and some intellectual leaders. The purpose of the League is announced to counteract widespread anti-Semitism in Poland.

Hungary April 10 1946 (REV/HC)

Politicians expelled a month earlier from the Independent Smallholders' Party (FKgP) found the Hungarian Freedom Party. Dezső Sulyok becomes chairman, with Vince Nagy and István Vásáry as vice-chairmen. A political paper, *Holnap* (Tomorrow), is launched.

Soviet Union /US – April 10, 1946 (KCA)

Andre Gromyko is appointed as permanent Soviet representative to the United Nations Security Council, while Nikolai Novikov is appointed as Ambassador to the U.S.

Poland / Soviet Union – April 12, 1946 (KCA)

A Polish-Soviet Trade Agreement is signed.

Romania / France – April 13, 1946 (PIR)

Romania and France transform their political representations into legations.

Hungary / Romania – April 13, 1946 (HC)

Hungary and Romania sign an agreement in Bucharest about the exchange of commodities.

Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – April 14, 1946 (KCA)

A new Soviet-Czechoslovak trade agreement is signed.

Yugoslavia / Spain – April 15, 1946 (KCA)

The Yugoslav Government recognizes Jose Giral's Spanish republican government in exile as the only legitimate Spanish government and establishes full diplomatic relations with it.

Romania / Soviet Union – April 15, 1946 (PIR)

At the Romanian Government's request, the Soviet Government lengthens by two more years the deadline by which reparations must be paid.

Finland / Soviet Union – April 17, 1946 (KCA)

A Finnish Government delegation arrives in Moscow to discuss with Stalin and Foreign Minister Molotov Finland's war reparations to the Soviet Union.

Hungary / Soviet Union – April 18, 1946 (KCA)

A joint Hungarian-Soviet announcement states that the Soviet Government has agreed at the request of the Hungarian Government to an eight year extension of Hungarian reparations to the Soviet Union.

Soviet Union / U.S. – April 18, 1946 (LBC)

Secretary of State Byrnes affirms that the U.S. invited the USSR to start negotiations on the \$1 billion loan requested by the USSR.

Yugoslavia – April 19, 1946 (BST)

The Politburo accuses Hebrang of trying to revive the old factional struggles and rules in favor of Tito. Earlier that month, Hebrang wrote a letter of protest to Kardelj, accusing Tito of personal animosity.

East Germany – April 19-22, 1946 (PLC)

At the Berlin party congress of the Soviet-occupied zone of Germany, the Social Democratic Party and the Communist Party are united under the new name of Socialist United Party of Germany (SED).

Yugoslavia / U.S. – April 19, 1946 (KCA)

The U.S. Government recognizes the government of Tito, and full diplomatic relations are resumed.

Poland – April 20, 1946 (KCA)

The official exchange rate of the Polish zloty is fixed at 100 to the dollar and 403 to the British pound.

Soviet Union – April 20, 1946 (KCA)

Kalachnikov is appointed Minister of Education.

Austria – April 22, 1946 (PLC)

At the Innsbruck mass demonstration a petition signed by 155 thousand people is given to Austrian chancellor Figl, demanding repossession of South-Tirol.

Romania – April 22, 1946 (PIR)

FND members assault ministers M. Romniceanu (PNL) and Emil Hațieganu (PNTȚ) in Galați and Dej.

Hungary / U.K. – April 24, 1946 (HC)

A British parliamentary delegation arrives in Budapest for a two week visit.

Soviet Union / France / U.S. / U.K. – April 25-July 25, 1946 (HC)

The Council of Foreign Ministers convenes in Paris. It prepares for the peace treaties of the defeated countries.

Poland / Sweden – April 25, 1946 (KCA)

A new train ferry service is opened between Trelleborg, Sweden and Gdynia, Poland, to serve mainly for the goods traded between Poland and Sweden.

Bulgaria / Finland / Hungary / Romania / Soviet Union / France / U.K. / U.S. / Italy – April 25, 1946 (CWC/PIR)

The second meeting of the Council of Foreign Ministers in Paris attempts to draft peace treaties for Germany's European allies: Italy, Bulgaria, Romania, Hungary and Finland.

Bulgaria / Spain – April 26, 1946 (KCA)

The Bulgarian Government breaks relations with General Franco's Government in Spain.

Hungary – April 27, 1946 (HC)

The convention of the district leaders and party functionaries of the leadership of the Hungarian Communist Party and the Social-Democratic Party takes place in the Sports Hall in Budapest. According to their announcement, the workers' parties' main objectives are to fix the most urgent questions about the industry and the creation of a solid currency.

Hungary / Switzerland – April 27, 1946 (HC)

Hungary and Switzerland sign an economic agreement. Hungary receives a 10 million Swiss Franc loan and 4 million Franc worth of food and medical supplies.

Poland – April 28, 1946 (PSN)

A new act makes Polish citizenship in the recovered territories dependent on proof of Polish ethnicity.

Romania – April 28-29, 1946 (PIR)

The Permanent Delegation of PNL-Tătărescu decides participation in the elections on common lists with the governmental Bloc.

Soviet Union – April 29, 1946 (CWC)

Secretary of State Byrnes proposes to ease Soviet concerns by signing a treaty that would guarantee U.S. defense of the Soviet Union in case it is ever attacked.

Soviet Union / Switzerland – April 30, 1946 (KCA)

Anatol Kulashenkov is appointed as the first Soviet Minister to Switzerland. *Colonel de Division* Hermann Fluckiger is appointed as a Swiss Minister to Moscow.

May 1946

Soviet Union – May 1, 1946 (CWC)

Stalin declares that international forces are preparing for another war and thus, the Soviet Army must be diligent in protecting peace.

Poland – May 3, 1946 (PSN)

After a service in St. Mary's Church in Cracow, groups of demonstrators cheer for Mikolajczyk. Soldiers from the internal Security Corps intervene with arms. After the demonstration, the authorities order large scale arrests of students, prompting student strikes.

Hungary – May 3, 1946 (HC)

The National Assembly approves the 1946: IX Law about relocation and the end of the land reform. It states the accomplishments of the land reform, and orders compensation wherever necessary. It claims that those who had been excluded from the land reform must be compensated through relocation.

Finland / Soviet Union – May 4, 1946 (KCA)

A new Soviet-Finnish trade agreement is concluded.

Yugoslavia / Italy/ US / Soviet Union – May 4, 1946 (PLC)

Byrnes suggests a referendum to solve the Italian -Yugoslav border dispute. Molotov would like to broaden this to the whole of the Venice-Giulia region and Istria.

Hungary – May 6, 1946 (REV)

After the inter-party agreement, compilation begins of a B list of politically undesirable public employees and state officials, and the process of reducing the staff by 10%. The left-wing parties use the process to rid the state and public administration of their political opponents.

Romania – May 6, 1946 (PIR)

The trial of Marshal Ion Antonescu and the other members of his government accused of “war crimes, betrayal of the country,” etc. begins at the People’s Tribunal (the president of the court being Alexandru Voitinovici). After the reading of the accusation act, Marshal Antonescu is interrogated.

Hungary / Romania / Soviet Union / France / U.K. / U.S. – May 7, 1946 (PIR)

In the 19th plenary session of the Council of Foreign Ministers in Paris, the Vienna award of August 30th 1940 is declared “null and void”. The frontier between Romania and Hungary is re-established “as it existed on January 1st 1938”.

Romania – May 7, 1946 (PIR)

The trial of the Antonescu government continues with the interrogations of: Mihai Antonescu, generals Constantin Pantazi, Constantin Z. Vasiliu, Gh. Dobre, David

Popescu, and of Titus Dragoș, Nicolae Mares, Ion Marinescu, Traian Brăileanu, Constantin Bușilă, Petre Tomescu, Gh. Alexianu and Radu Lecca.

Hungary – May 8, 1946 (HC)

The Central Committee of the Hungarian Communist Party approves the program of the party. Its main objectives are the creation of a solid currency, the collection of currency and stockpile, taxation reform, the reduction of the number of state officials, and the adoption of a new price and salary system.

Poland / U.S. – May 8, 1946 (LBC)

The U.S. suspends deliveries to Poland of goods provided in the framework of the \$50 million property surplus credit.

Hungary – May 9, 1946 (HC)

Mihály Károlyi returns to Budapest from exile after 27 years.

Czechoslovakia / Yugoslavia – May 9, 1946 (KCA)

A Czechoslovak-Yugoslav treaty of mutual assistance, cooperation and friendship is signed.

Romania – May 10, 1946 (PIR)

A military parade takes place on Victory Square during Independence Day and Victory Day. In the presence of King Mihai I, members of the Government and representatives of the allied armies, a monument dedicated to Soviet soldiers is inaugurated.

Hungary / Yugoslavia – May 11 1946 (REV)

President of the Reparations Office János Erőss and O.M. Cicmil sign the Hungarian-Yugoslav Reparations Agreement in Belgrade Hungary is to pay reparations worth \$70 million over a six-year period.

Romania – May 11, 1946 (PIR)

The representatives of FND and the General Confederation of Labor discuss the economic situation of the miners, the strike movements and measures to resolve the problems in the area with delegates of Petroșani and Valea Jiului.

Romania – May 11, 1946 (PIR)

Iuliu Maniu, PNT president, testifies in the trial of Marshal Ion Antonescu.

Romania – May 17, 1946 (PIR)

Verdict is announced in the trial of the Antonescu government: Ion Antonescu, Mihai Antonescu, C.Z. Vasiliu, Gh. Alexianu, C. Pantazi, Eugen Cristescu and Radu Lecca are sentenced to death. The sentences of the latter three are commuted to life imprisonment.

Romania – May 17, 1946 (PIR)

The Bloc of Democratic Parties (BPD), an alliance comprised of: PCR, PSD, PNL-Tătărescu, The Plowmen's Front, PNP and PNT-Alexandrescu, is founded.

Romania – May 17, 1946 (PIR)

The Central Electoral Commission is constituted.

Romania – May 17, 1946 (PIR)

The FND Council discusses the problems connected to the Hungarian Popular Union (its organization, its influence, and its rapports to the Romanian population).

Soviet Union / France / U.K. / U.S. – May 17-June 12, 1946 (LBC)

The second round of the Paris conference of the Council of Foreign Ministers takes place.

Romania – May 18, 1946 (PIR)

A meeting between university rectors and representatives of the government takes place to discuss the issue of anti-governmental actions and protests from students.

Hungary / Yugoslavia – May 20, 1946 (KCA)

Budapest announces that a Yugoslav-Hungarian agreement on Hungarian war reparations to Yugoslavia has been signed, according to which Hungary is to pay \$70 million out of the \$300 million to which it had agreed under the Armistice Treaty with the Allies.

Romania – May 20, 1946 (PIR)

The Platform-Program of the Bloc of Democratic Parties is made public.

Romania – May 20-22, 1946 (PIR)

The national conference of the Union of Workers from Ports and Transportation expresses its support for the government, asking “the severe sanctioning of owners who play the game of reactionary forces and refuse to help the working class.”

Yugoslavia / U.K. / U.S. – May 20, 1946 (KCA)

An Anglo-American note strongly criticizes the Yugoslav “unwarranted propaganda campaign, culminating in completely unfounded charges by Marshal Tito”.

Hungary – May 20, 1946 (HC)

The political committee of the FKGP releases a proclamation. It demands the reallocation of the leadership positions of the police and various other political positions according to the elections. The proportions of each party must be represented in these positions according to the election results. It also presses for local elections. This proclamation will be sent to the representatives of the leaders of the Left Wing Bloc.

Hungary – May 21, 1946 (HC)

After approving the proposal of the Hungarian Communist Party, the Council of Ministers orders the issue of the new solid currency, the *Forint*, by August.

A provoked fighting in the crowd results in an anti-Semitic pogrom in Kunmadaras (Szolnok county) 2 people were killed, 18 injured (25 July: The People's Court sentenced the 3 inciters to death, and 4 accomplices to forced labour for life.

Czechoslovakia – May 21, 1946 (KCA)

Karl Hermann Frank is sentenced to death. The following day he is hanged in the presence of 5,000 people, including survivors of the Lidice massacre.

Romania – May 22, 1946 (PIR)

The Romanian government recognizes the republican Spanish Government in exile, led by Jose Giral y Pereira.

Finland / Soviet Union – May 25, 1946 (KCA)

A joint Moscow and Helsinki announcement states that the Soviet Government has agreed to “relieve Finland from further deliveries of property taken away from the Soviet Union”. Also, extensive Soviet supplies to Finland are announced.

Czechoslovakia – May 26, 1946 (PLC)

Parliamentary elections in Czechoslovakia. Similar to Austria, the parties do not form a coalition. Participation rate: 94.1%. The Czech and Slovak communist parties win with 38% (114 seats out of 300). In the Czech Republic the communists win with 40.2%, while in Slovakia the Democratic Party wins with 62%, the Slovak Communist Party is second with 30.4%. The percentage of white paper votes is 10.7%.

Hungary – May 26, 1946 (HC)

The great assembly of all the member parties of the Left Wing Bloc takes place in Kaposvár. Their proclamation stresses the importance of the fight against the remains of the reaction and the Fascists. It also highlights the importance of the creation of political bases of stability. It announces that the Executive Committee of the Left Wing Bloc is a permanent body.

Romania – May 26, 1946 (PIR)

King Mihai I personally awards Petru Groza with the Order “Faithful Service” at Constanța.

Poland / Soviet Union – May 26, 1946 (KCA)

A Polish-Soviet agreement is reached on the following topics; the annulment of financial obligations concerning the Polish army that arose during the war; Soviet supply of arms and munitions for the Polish army; Soviet gold credits to Poland; expediting Soviet deliveries to Poland in view of the country's urgent reconstruction needs; cultural exchanges; population exchange.

Soviet Union – May 26, 1946 (KCA)

Soviet Foreign Minister Molotov makes a speech at the recent Conference of Foreign Ministers in Paris, saying that “certain positive results were reached... although they cannot be recognized as sufficient”

Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – May 26, 1946 (KCA)

Prague radio announces that General Vlassov was arrested by the Soviet Army and taken back to Moscow. General Vlassov was taken prisoner during the war, after which he joined the enemy and fought for the Germans.

Romania – May 27, 1946 (PIR)

In Bucharest, U.S. Representative Burton Y. Berry and U.K. Representative Adrian Holman address a note to the Romanian Government protesting the abuses against democracy.

Soviet Union / U.K. / U.S. – May 27, 1946 (LBC)

In an interview with *Pravda*, Foreign Minister Molotov claims that at the Paris Conference “the Anglo-American” bloc launched an offensive against the USSR and “desire to impose its will on the Soviet Union”. Molotov deems that Byrnes’s proposal to put the whole peace conference to the U.N. General Assembly was an attempt “to utilize the methods of pressure, threat and intimidation”.

Romania – May 28-29, 1946 (PIR)

In Cluj, student dormitories are attacked by Hungarians who are dissatisfied with the retrocession of Transylvania.

Poland – May 29, 1946 (PLC)

The Polish “rejoined areas” are split into three counties: Olsztyn, Wroclaw, Szczecin. The remaining areas become parts of the existing counties.

Czechoslovakia – May 30, 1946 (KCA)

The Czech and Slovak parties agree that Benes remains the President of the Republic.

Soviet Union / Yugoslavia – May 27, 1946 (KCA)

A Yugoslav-Soviet agreement is announced in which the Soviet Government agrees to supply the Yugoslav Army with armaments and ammunitions, and assist in the restoration of the Yugoslav armament industry and the mutual exchange of commodities.

Soviet Union / U.S. – May 31, 1946 (KCA)

Truman discloses that he invited Stalin to the U.S. twice, but that Stalin rejected the invitation both times due to health issues.

June 1946

Albania / Yugoslavia – June 1946 (PLC)

At the congress of the Albanian Communist Party, Enver Hoxha tries to change the policy line of Dzedze, building close ties with Yugoslavia, but he does not succeed.

Romania – June 1, 1946 (PIR)

Marshal Ion Antonescu, Mihai Antonescu, General C.Z. Vasiliu and Gh. Alexianu are executed in the courtyard of the Jilava prison.

Romania – June 1, 1946 (PIR)

The Romanian government responds to the allied note of May 27, promising free elections and the safeguarding of democratic liberties.

Romania / U.S. – June 1, 1946 (LBC)

The U.S. protests to the Romanian government after the Romanian secret police arrested three employees of Romanian citizenship in the building of the U.S. military mission on May 28.

Soviet Union / Iceland – June 1, 1946 (KCA)

An Icelandic-Soviet trade agreement is announced.

Romania – June 2, 1946 (PIR)

The National Peasants' Party publishes its manifest in *Dreptatea*. The manifest is the party's election program.

Czechoslovakia – June 4, 1946 (KCA)

President Benes requests Klemens Gottwald, the Communist leader, to form a new Government.

Yugoslavia – June 4, 1946 (OEH)

A law on the establishment of the Federal Central Planning Board, headed by Boris Kidrić, is adopted.

Hungary – June 5, 1946 (REV)

Under an agreement between the Left Wing Bloc and the Independent Smallholders' Party (FKGP), the former undertakes to meet the latter's 'proportioning' demands on the redistribution of positions according to the election results, while the Smallholders agree to move against 'right-wing elements' in their ranks.

Poland – June 5, 1946 (KCA)

The suspension of all the activities of the Peasant Party is announced in four additional areas on the basis that it was allegedly involved in activities aimed at "the overthrow of the democratic Polish State".

Romania – June 5, 1946 (PIR)

During a meeting with the faculty and students of Iasi, Petru Groza makes pro-

monarchist statements, assuring the King that, maintaining the line of the people's destiny on which he had set himself on the 23rd of August, 1944 "he could reign in good peace, like no king reigns in Europe today."

Soviet Union / Denmark – June 5-8, 1946 (KCA)

A Danish delegation visits the Soviet Union, holding discussions on trade matters as well as political questions.

Romania – June 7, 1946 (PIR)

The Central Electoral Committee of the Bloc of Democratic Parties is formed under the presidency of Mihai Ralea.

Hungary / Czechoslovakia – June 8, 1946 (HC)

Hungary and Czechoslovakia sign an agreement about the exchange of commodities.

Hungary / France / U.S. / U.K. – June 8-25, 1946 (HC/REV)

A Hungarian government delegation headed by Prime Minister Ferenc Nagy holds talks in Washington, London and Paris. While the Western powers make it clear that they are not in a position to effectively support Hungary's claims at the peace conference, the U.S. administration agrees to return to the National Bank of Hungary some \$40 million worth of gold reserves taken by U.S. forces. The gold had originally been taken away by the Germans and Hungarian arrow-cross members. The official announcement on behalf of the US Secretary of State is on 25 June.

Romania – June 9-10, 1946 (PIR)

The National Congress of Democratic Students takes place in Bucharest.

Romania – June 9-10, 1946 (PIR)

The Conference of the General Federation of the Patron-Handicraftsmen of Romania (Conferința Federației Generale a Meșterilor Patroni) takes place. It expresses adhesion to the platform-program of BDP.

Yugoslavia – June 10-July 15, 1946 (KCA)

The trial of the former *Chetchnik* leader, General Draja Mihailovic, takes place before the Supreme Military Court in Belgrade, along with the trial against other prominent members of the war-time Yugoslavian Government. Mihailovic is found guilty of "countless war crimes" and sentenced to death by shooting.

Soviet Union – June 10, 1946 (PLC)

In Lithuania the United Democratic Resistance Movement is formed as the most important anti-Soviet political and military organization.

Romania / Hungary – June 11, 1946 (PLC)

A Hungarian suggestion to exchange minorities and correct the Romanian-Hungarian border established in the Trianon Treaty in 1920 is issued.

Yugoslavia / France – June 13, 1946 (KCA)

A Franco-Yugoslav trade agreement is signed.

Yugoslavia – June 11, 1946 (RSB)

Seven-year compulsory education is introduced in Yugoslavia.

Soviet Union – June 14, 1946 (KCA)

The Supreme Soviet issues a decree stating that former subjects of the Soviet Union will be able to regain Soviet citizenship.

Hungary June 15, 1946 (REV)

An order is issued to hand over German assets in Hungary to the Soviet Union.

Soviet Union / Yugoslavia / Italy / France / U.S. / U.K. – June 15-July 12, 1946 (LUY)

The Council of Foreign Ministers reconvenes in Paris. The principal issue is the question of Trieste. Kardelj represents Yugoslavia and clearly indicates that he will not sign an Italian peace treaty, unless Yugoslavia receives Trieste. Yugoslavia is, at first, backed by Soviet Foreign Minister Molotov, but on the evening of July 3 Molotov abruptly changes his position and accepts the French compromise proposal. It proposes the internationalization of the city of Trieste into an autonomous territory under the United Nations.

Romania – June 16, 1946 (PIR)

In the aula of the Commercial Academy of Bucharest, the Congress of University and Secondary Teachers begins. It ends on June 18.

Hungary / Czechoslovakia – June 17, 1946 (HC)

The number 20 000-1-IV/1946 order of the Slovak National Council about “re-Slovakization” is issued. It calls on the Hungarian minority to declare (in writing) that their nationality is Slovak by which they can regain their Czechoslovak citizenship and civil rights.

Hungary – June 17, 1946 (REV)

At Oktogon Square in Budapest, shots are fired from an attic on passing Soviet soldiers, killing a Soviet officer, a soldier and a Hungarian girl. According to a police statement, the shooter was István Péntzes, a member of the National Secretariat of Catholic Agricultural Youth Clubs (KALOT), who committed suicide afterwards. The assault may also have been an act of provocation by the communist-led political police, the ÁVO.

Romania – June 17, 1946 (KCA)

Former Romanian Prime Minister Nicola Radescu, after being the target of violent attacks by the left-wing parties, escapes Bucharest and flees to Cyprus to seek sanctuary with the British representative.

Romania – June 17, 1946 (PIR)

The international conference on the theme of health, organized by the U.N., invites Romania to participate as an observer.

Hungary / Romania – June 18, 1946 (HC)

The 2nd Congress of the Hungarian Popular Alliance in Romania takes place in Székelyudvarhely. According to the report of the Congress, 1680 elementary and 127 high schools exist in Transylvania, Romania.

Hungary – June 18, 1946 (REV)

Following the Oktogon incident, Interior Minister László Rajk puts a proposal before the government which contains punishments for “acts of terror”.

Romania – June 18-19, 1946 (PIR)

The first Conference of the post-bellum world of theater takes place in Bucharest.

Soviet Union – June 19, 1946 (HC)

The Soviet Union calls for a ban on nuclear weapons in the U.N.

Hungary / France – June 19, 1946 (HC)

Henri-Louis Gauquié the new envoy of France presents his credentials to the Hungarian President.

Romania – June 19, 1946 (PIR)

A new political purge in the army takes place through a law to create disposable army cadres. With nominal approval from the King, 7,600 officers from a table of 20,000 are placed on reserve.

Czechoslovakia – June 19, 1946 (KCA)

Eduard Benes is unanimously re-elected as President of the Republic by the Constitutional Assembly, and Prime Minister Gottwald forms a new Government.

Bulgaria / Soviet Union – June 20, 1946 (PLC)

The Council of Foreign Ministers decides to pull out Western forces from Italy and Soviet forces from Bulgaria within 90 days after signing the peace treaties.

East Germany – June 20, 1946 (KCA)

The Soviet Military Government announces that in the Soviet zone of Germany elections for local district councils will take place in September.

Poland / Argentina – June 21, 1946 (KCA)

Diplomatic relations are resumed between Poland and Argentina.

Poland – June 21-July 10, 1946 (KCA)

The former Nazi President of the Free City of Danzig, Arthur Greiser, is tried as a war criminal. During the trial he tries to place the blame on Hitler, Himmler and the Gestapo. Greiser is found guilty and sentenced to death.

Hungary – June 23, 1946 (HC)

The Left Wing Bloc sends an open letter to the members of the FKGP. It suggests that the democratic peasant majority of the party should unite against the right wing side of the party.

Poland / U.K. – June 23, 1946 (PSN)

Poland and the U.K. sign an agreement on financial matters. The British renounce their claim to expenses made in arming Polish soldiers during the war and in transferring war supplies from Britain to Poland.

Hungary – June 25, 1946 (REV)

The Hungarian government puts all associations and social organizations under Interior Ministry supervision, giving its communist minister control over the entire civil sector.

Romania – June 25-29, 1946 (PIR)

A country-wide conference of the C.A.M. Syndicates takes place.

Hungary – June 26, 1946 (HC)

The National Assembly passes the number 1946 XIII law about the nationalization of mines.

Romania – June 27, 1946 (PIR)

Romania and Iran re-establish diplomatic relations at the level of legation.

Austria / Soviet Union – June 27, 1946 (PLC)

The leaders of the Soviet zone of Austria confiscate all German properties.

Hungary / Czechoslovakia – June 28, 1946 (HC)

The Hungarian government protests at the Allied Powers against the re-Slovakization campaign in Czechoslovakia.

Hungary / Poland – June 28, 1946 (HC)

Hungary and Poland sign an agreement about the exchange of commodities.

Austria – June 28, 1946 (PLC)

The second occupation agreement constrains the veto right of the Allies (and thus broadens the power of the government) in occupied Austria.

Bulgaria – June 28, 1946 (KCA)

Kristu Pastukhov, a veteran Social-Democratic leader, is sentenced to five years imprisonment for a newspaper article criticizing a speech by the Communist leader Gheorghii Dimitrov.

Poland – June 28, 1946 (KCA)

Mikolajczyk, the leader of the Polish Peasant Party, announces that more than 1,200 members of the party have been arrested, and that the party is not able to carry out its election campaign.

Romania – June 29, 1946 (PIR)

Romania concludes an economic accord with Switzerland.

Romania – June 29, 1946 (PIR)

The national Conference of small and medium industry expresses its support for the politics of the government and its adhesion to the platform-program of the BPD.

Romania – June 29-July 3, 1946 (PIR)

The second national Conference of the Union of CFR Syndicates (Romanian Railway system) announces its support for BPD in the elections.

Romania – June 30, 1946 (PIR)

The national conference of the Jewish Democratic Committee announces its support for BPD in the elections.

East Germany – June 30, 1946 (KCA)

A referendum in the Soviet Zone of Germany approves of expropriation of Nazi businesses in Saxony.

Poland June 30, 1946 (HC)

In Poland a referendum approves nationalization and land reform act and the abolishment of the Senate. The results of the referendum were, however, forged by the Communists. Real results are said to be hugely in favor of the Peasant Party, campaigning for not to dissolve the Senate.

July 1946

Romania / Czechoslovakia – July 1946 (PLC)

A Czechoslovak decree on repatriating Czech and Slovak minorities from Romania is issued.

Romania – July 1-5, 1946 (PIR)

The national Conference of the Union of Syndicates in the Petrol-Gas branch takes place in Ploiești.

Albania / Yugoslavia – July 1, 1946 (PLC)

A Yugoslav-Albanian economic cooperation agreement is concluded.

Poland – July 1, 1946 (KCA)

Mikolajczyk, leader of the Peasant Party, protests against widespread irregularities in the counting of the votes of the June 30 referendum.

Yugoslavia / Italy / Soviet Union / France / U.S. / U.K. – July 2, 1946 (PLC)

The peace conference reaches agreement on the Trieste problem. Trieste will become a free area of two zones, administered internationally.

Romania / France – July 3, 1946 (PIR)

Romania concludes an economic accord with France.

Bulgaria – July 3, 1946 (KCA)

The Bulgarian parliament passes a bill for a “fundamental purge of harmful elements in the Bulgarian Army” and the appointment of Political Commissars in the Army possessing equal rights with military commanders.

Romania / Belgium /Luxemburg – July 4, 1946 (PIR)

Romania re-establishes diplomatic relations at the level of legation with Belgium and with the Grand Duchy of Luxemburg.

Poland – July 4, 1946 (KCA/PSN)

Pogroms against the Jews erupt in the town of Kielce. Forty one Jews are killed. Troops and police are sent to the town and a number of anti-Semitists are arrested, including the town’s deputy chief of police.

Soviet Union – July 4, 1946 (PLC)

Konigsberg is renamed Kaliningrad to commemorate the Soviet leader Kalinin, who died on March 19.

Hungary – July 4, 1946 (HC)

Minister of the Interior László Rajk disbands the “Hungarian Scout Association), and the “Katolikus Agrárfjúsági Legényegyesületek Országos Testülete” (KALOT). In the following two weeks he disbands an additional 1,500 community and religious youth organizations.

Poland – July 5, 1946 (PSN)

A decree establishes the creation of the Central Office for the Supervision of the Press, Publications and Spectacles. The new office becomes the center for widespread censorship of the media.

Romania – July 5-6, 1946 (PIR)

The national Conference of the “Patriotic Defense”, an organization dedicated to the battle against terror and the aid of the victims of war and fascism, declares its

adhesion to the platform-program of BPD.

East Germany – July 5, 1946 (KCA)

The Soviet occupation authorities open a German Academy of Science, to replace the former Prussian Academy of Science.

Hungary – July 7, 1946 (REV)

Lieutenant General Vladimir Sviridov, deputy chairman of the Allied Control Commission, summons Prime Minister Ferenc Nagy and demands in an ultimatum that “pro-fascist” associations should be dissolved and the Catholic Church and the “reactionary clergy” brought to their knees.

Poland – July 7, 1946 (KCA)

The number of Jews murdered at the *pogrom* on July 4, 1946, is confirmed at 45, while 40 were wounded. Premier Osobka-Morawski announces that the ringleaders of the *pogrom* will immediately be put on trial.

Albania / Yugoslavia – July 9, 1946 (PLC)

A Yugoslav-Albanian friendship and mutual assistance agreement is signed in Tirana.

Hungary – July 10, 1946 (HC)

In the presence of the President and other prominent members of the Government, the leadership of the Győrffy István college of Budapest announces the beginning of the Movement for Building People’s Colleges.

Soviet Union / US – July 10, 1946 (CWC)

Molotov gives a speech in which he criticizes the Byrnes plan as a wrong step in resolving the occupation of Germany. This marks the public acknowledgment of a wide gap between the U.S. and the Soviet Union.

Yugoslavia – July 10-16, 1946 (JVJ)

The trial of Dragoljub "Draža" Mihailović, leader of the *Chetnik* movement, takes place. Mihailović is sentenced to death on July 16, 1946.

Bulgaria – July 12, 1946 (KCA)

G. M. Dimitrov, former leader of the Agrarian Party, is sentenced to life imprisonment and loss of civil rights for infringing the State security law by undermining the morale of the Bulgarian Army during the 1944 campaign against Germany.

Poland – July 12, 1946 (KCA)

The final results of the referendum of June 30, 1946 are published, with the result being “yes” to each of the questions.

Poland – July 13, 1946 (KCA)

In a military court in Kielce, 9 leaders of the *pogrom* in Kielce are sentenced to death, and three others to 10 years' imprisonment.

Yugoslavia – July 13, 1946 (PLC)

Montenegro's capital, Podgorica, is renamed in honor of Tito (Titograd).

Romania – July 13, 1946 (PIR)

The electoral law, which establishes the right to direct, equal and anonymous voting for all citizens over 21 years of age, including people in the military and women, is promulgated. Likewise, the law pronounces the dissolution of the Senate as an institution.

Romania – July 14, 1946 (PIR)

A PCR meeting at the Roman Arenas opens the electoral campaign of the party.

Romania – July 15-16, 1946 (PIR)

The national Conference of the Democratic Federation of Women in Romania takes place, dedicating itself to supporting the electoral campaign of BPD.

Yugoslavia – July 17, 1946 (PLC)

In Yugoslavia, Mihajlovic and 10 other politicians are executed after the July 10-16 *Chetnik* trial.

Yugoslavia – July 18, 1946 (JVJ)

A law on the establishment of agricultural co-operatives is adopted in Parliament.

Hungary – July 29, 1946 (REV)

The Independent Smallholders' Party (FKGP) protests over the banning of church associations and demands that the measure be rescinded. Interior Minister László Rajk dissolves over a thousand other church, religious, cultural, social and youth bodies over the next year.

Soviet Union / Denmark – July 19, 1946 (KCA)

Moscow and Copenhagen announce a two-year Soviet-Danish trade agreement.

Romania – July 19-20, 1946 (PIR)

The Congress of PNTȚ-Anton Alexandrescu takes place.

Hungary – July 19, 1946 (HC)

The Political Committee of the FKGP expresses its concern about Minister of the Interior László Rajk, and demands for the cancellation of the banning of youth organizations, especially religious ones.

Romania – July 21, 1946 (PIR)

The first syndical congress of the primary school teachers in Romania opens in Bucharest.

Hungary – July 21, 1946 (HC)

Cardinal of Esztergom József Mindszenty writes a letter to Prime Minister Ferenc Nagy on behalf of the Catholic bishops. He sharply criticizes the government for the banning of Catholic Youth organizations, and demands the immediate cancelation of these orders.

Poland – July 21, 1946 (KCA)

Arthur Greiser is publicly hanged in Poznan in the presence of 15,000 people.

Yugoslavia / U.S. – July 22, 1946 (LUY)

Yugoslavia cancels all U.S. flights over Yugoslav territory, and requires the Vienna-to-Belgrade plane to operate over Hungarian territory.

Romania – July 23, 1946 (PIR)

The composition of the Romanian delegation at the Paris Peace Conference is decided upon: Gh. Tătărescu, L. Pătrășcanu, Șt. Voitec, I. Gh. Maurer, S. Stoilov, R. Franasovici.

Hungary – July 24, 1946 (HC)

In the National Assembly, Dezső Sulyok publishes the program of the Freedom Party which was established in April 10.

Composer Zoltán Kodály becomes the president of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences.

Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – July 25, 1946 (KCA)

Czechoslovak-Soviet negotiations end with the Czechoslovak delegation's proposals to the Soviet Union about the Hungarian peace treaty. The following day the Czechoslovak Government announces that the Soviet Government "understands our just claims against Hungary".

Hungary / Sweden – July 26, 1946 (HC)

Hungary and Sweden sign a trade agreement.

Hungary / Soviet Union / U.S. – July 26, 1946 (LBC)

The U.S. publishes its diplomatic note of July 23 in which it accuses the USSR of depriving Hungary of food supplies and industrial equipment. According to the note, reparations and the obligation to supply the Red Army caused Hungary's difficult situation. The note contains recommendations for the U.S., the USSR and the U.K. to work jointly in order to stop Hungary's economic disintegration.

Hungary – July 27, 1946 (HC)

The number 10 860/1946 order of the government is published. The food-ticket system is expanded to the entire country.

The Minister for Public Supply rules the bread and wheat rations.

Allied Powers / Defeated countries – July 29-October 15, 1946 (PLC)

The Paris Peace Conference ending the Second World War takes place. The German, Austrian and Japanese peace treaties are not on the agenda. The conference does not have decisive power, and the 21 participating member states can only give recommendations to the Council of Foreign Ministers. Previous decisions (armistices and the decisions of the Council) had already been accepted. On October 15 the conference is postponed because of Soviet-Western antagonism, delaying the German, the Austrian and the Japanese peace treaties.

Romania – July 30, 1946 (PIR)

The draft of the Peace Treaty with Romania is published simultaneously in London, Paris, Moscow and Washington.

Czechoslovakia – July 30, 1946 (KCA)

The Czechoslovak Ministry of the Interior announces that the city of Moravska-Ostrava has been renamed Ostrava.

Hungary – July 30-August 1, 1946 (HC)

Anti-Semitic riots take place in Miskolc due to the hitch in food supplies.

August 1946**Yugoslavia – August 1946 (ACY)**

In a show trial designed to prove criminal collaboration with the German army, the Anglo-Saxon intelligence and the Royal Yugoslav Army, Bishop Rožman is put on trial *in absentia*. The accused include Rupnik, president of the wartime civil government of Ljubljana and a former Yugoslav Army general; Rösener, a German SS general in command in Slovenia; Dr. Hacin, the Ljubljana wartime police chief; and Dr. Klerk, a former minister who spent the war years in England.

Hungary – August 1, 1946 (REV)

A new stable currency, the Forint, is issued and inflation controlled. (Ft. 1 = 400,000 x 1024 pengős, 200 million tax pengős, or 0.28766 pengős of 1938.)

Hungary / Soviet Union / U.S. – August 1, 1946 (LBC)

The Soviet Union rebuffs the U.S. note of July 26. Moscow denies the American assertion that in 1945 it received 24% of Hungary's GNP for reparations.

Soviet Union – August 1, 1946 (PLC)

The Soviet Supreme Court sentences General Andrei Vlassov, the commander of

the “Russian Liberating Army”, to death, together with his associates. He collaborated with the Germans during the war and was brought back to the Soviet Union in May 1945. He is executed immediately.

Romania – August 3, 1946 (PIR)

The Romanian Press publishes the official text of the draft Peace Treaty between the Allied Powers and Romania.

Yugoslavia / Netherlands – August 3, 1946 (OEH)

Yugoslavia signs a payment agreement with the Netherlands.

Hungary – August 6, 1946 (HC/KCA)

The entire gold reserve (32 tons of gold) of the Hungarian National Bank is returned to Hungary by the U.S. authorities in Germany.

Poland / Soviet Union – August 6, 1946 (KCA)

Polish and Soviet authorities reach an agreement according to which the control and navigation of the entire Oder is Polish responsibility.

Romania – August 8, 1946 (PIR)

The government places 8,000 officers on reserve.

Soviet Union / Turkey – August 8, 1946 (KCA)

The Soviet *Chargé d’Affaires* presents a note to the Turkish Government, demanding for the revision of the Montreaux Convention and for joint Soviet-Turkish responsibility for the defense of the Straits in the Black Sea. The note causes deep worry in Turkey, as joint defense of the Straits would mean Soviet military bases and forces on Turkish territory.

Hungary – August 9, 1946 (HC)

In the Kerepes cemetery of Budapest, Communist martyrs Imre Sallai, Sándor Fürst (1932), Zoltán Schönherz (1942) Ferenc Rózsa (1944) and Endre Ságvári (1944) are put to their permanent graves during a ceremony.

Romania – August 9, 1946 (PIR)

The Romanian Government approves the mandate and composition of the Romanian Delegation at the Paris Peace Conference (led by Gh. Tătărescu, Minister of Foreign Affairs).

Romania – August 9, 1946 (PIR)

The Political Bureau of the CC of the PCR discusses the problem of frontiers with Bulgaria and the navigation regime on the Danube.

Yugoslavia / U.S. – August 9, 1946 (LUY)

A U.S. C-47 transport plane on its way from Vienna to Udine is forced to land under pressure of two Yugoslav fighters. The plane makes a successful wheels-up

crash landing in a Slovenian cornfield near Ljubljana with only one Turkish officer getting seriously injured.

Romania – August 10, 1946 (PIR)

Following the governmental decision of August 9, a governmental declaration titled “The Romanian Attitude at the Paris Peace Conference” is made public, presenting the objectives of Romania at the Conference.

Bulgaria / Yugoslavia – August 10, 1946 (PLC)

According to the resolution of the Bulgarian Communist Party, the base of the Macedon nation is Yugoslav-Macedonia. Great Macedonia must be a part of Yugoslavia (together with Pirini-Macedonia).

Romania – August 12, 1946 (PIR)

The National Federation of the Democratic Youth in Romania is formed.

Romania – August 13, 1946 (PIR)

In the plenary session of the Peace Conference, Gheorghe Tătărescu exposes the point of view of Romania regarding the Peace Treaty.

Bulgaria – August 14, 1946 (KCA)

Bulgarian Foreign Minister Kulishev, addresses the Paris Peace Conference. He asks for the recognition of Bulgaria as a co-belligerent country, emphasizing Bulgarian losses during the war, and expresses disapproval at the clause in the draft peace treaty restricting the size of the Bulgarian Army.

Hungary /Czechoslovakia / Romania – August 14, 1946 (KCA)

Hungarian Foreign Minister Gyöngyösi addresses the Paris Peace Conference, focusing mainly on the catastrophic economic situation of Hungary (with 35-40% of the pre-war national capital lost) and the conditions of Hungarian minorities in neighboring states. Gyöngyösi asks for the return of Hungarian territory (22,000 sq. km) in Transylvania (from the complete area of 103,000 sq. km detached from Hungary in 1920) with regard to the Hungarian minority in Romania. He further criticizes the treatment and suppression of the Hungarian minority in Slovakia. Czechoslovakian Foreign Minister Jan Masaryk replies that “after all unspeakable experiences, can you wonder that we did not give back all the rights and privileges which the Hungarians have abused for so long?” According to him in the interwar years the Hungarian minority had been a “constant source of agitation”.

Romania – August 14, 1946 (KCA)

Tatarescu, the Romanian Foreign Minister, addresses the Paris Peace Conference. He makes a plea for the recognition of Romania as co-belligerent because of her military and economic efforts against Germany in 1944-1945, as well as the faithful fulfilling of the Armistice conditions.

Soviet Union / Turkey – August 14, 1946 (KCA)

Turkish Prime Minister Peker states that the Turkish army is ready to safeguard the country's territory and that the government will study the Soviet note of August 8 more carefully before announcing a reply.

Romania – August 16, 1946 (PIR)

At the Peace Conference, the Economic Committee for the Balkans and Finland debates (until September 30th) the economic problems of the Peace Treaty with Romania.

Yugoslavia – August 17, 1946 (PLC)

Dimitrov and Tito approve the plan of Great-Macedonia.

Yugoslavia / U.S. – August 18, 1946 (KCA)

Richard Patterson, American Ambassador in Belgrade, reports that a C-47 transport plane has been shot down by two Yugoslav fighters on August 9, 1946. 10 people aboard are reported to be in Yugoslav detention.

Yugoslavia / U.S. – August 19, 1946 (KCA)

An American plane on the way to Vienna goes missing after the pilot is reporting to be under machine-gun attack in the north of the Austro-Yugoslav frontier.

Poland / U.K. – August 19, 1946 (KCA)

A British note reminds Poland to hold free and fair elections as soon as possible

Hungary – August 20, 1946 (HC)

The rebuilt Liberty Bridge (the former Franz Joseph Bridge) is ceremoniously reopened.

Poland / U.K. / U.S. – August 20, 1946 (LBC)

The U.S. and the U.K. accuse Poland of suppressing democratic activity and of violations in counting the votes in the June 30 referendum.

Hungary / Czechoslovakia – August 20, 1946 (KCA)

A Czechoslovak memorandum presented to the Paris Peace Conference asks for more areas to be ceded to Czechoslovakia and the authority to transfer 200,000 Hungarians to Hungary as a final solution to the question of the Hungarian minority in Slovakia.

Yugoslavia / U.S. – August 20, 1946 (KCA)

Dean Acheson condemns the Yugoslav attacks on U.S. planes. In reply to an official note sent to the Yugoslav government, the Yugoslav Telegraphic Agency publishes a text of an earlier Yugoslav note to the U.S., dated August 11, complaining about U.S. infringement on Yugoslav territory.

Hungary – August 21, 1946 (KCA)

Col.-Gen. Albert Bartha is appointed as Hungarian Defense Minister.

Yugoslavia / U.S. – August 21, 1946 (KCA)

A second official note to the Yugoslav Government demands the release of the passengers and crew of the plane forced down on August 9 within 48 hours. Also, it asks permission for American diplomatic representatives to investigate the disappearance of the U.S. plane shot down on August 19. It threatens the Yugoslav Government with UN Security Council action. The Yugoslav Government replies the same day, repeating accusations of American planes violating the aerial territory of Yugoslavia.

Yugoslavia / U.S. – August 22, 1946 (KCA)

The passengers and crew of the U.S. plane forced down in Yugoslavia on August 9 are released.

Hungary – August 24, 1946 (HC)

The National Assembly passes the number 1946: XII law according to which women may apply for colleges and universities.

Soviet Union – August 25, 1946 (KCA)

Maxim Litvinov resigns from the post of Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs. Feodor Gusev and Jakob Malik are appointed as the new Vice-Ministers of Foreign Affairs.

Bulgaria – August 26, 1946 (KCA)

In the Paris Peace Conference, the Political and Territorial Commission rejects a proposal giving Bulgaria the status of a co-belligerent country.

Romania August 27, 1946 (PIR)

The Political and Territorial Commission of the Peace Conference rejects Romania's request for the recognition of the co-belligerent status.

Poland – August 27, 1946 (KCA)

The Polish Embassy in Washington condemns the recent British and American notes as interference in Polish internal matters and sovereign rights.

Yugoslavia – August 27, 1946 (ABC)

In his speech to the Fifth Regular Session of the *Sabor* (Parliament) of the People's Republic of Croatia, Bakarić sets forth his view concerning the entire political situation then existing in Croatia, placing special attention to relations between the authorities and the Catholic Church.

Yugoslavia / Norway – August 30, 1946 (OEH)

Yugoslavia signs an economic and payment agreement with Norway.

Romania / Hungary – August 31, 1946 (PIR)

At the Peace Conference, the Political and Territorial Commission discusses the problem of the Romanian-Hungarian border.

September 1946**Romania – September 1946 (PIR)**

Ștefan Foriș, former General Secretary of the PCR, is assassinated in prison under orders from the new party leadership.

East Germany – September 1-15, 1946 (KCA)

Elections for town and parish councils take place, the Socialist Unity Party wins with absolute majority.

Hungary – September 1-5, 1946 (HC)

Prime Minister Ferenc Nagy attends the Paris Peace Conference.

Romania/Hungary September 2, 1946 (KCA)

During the Paris Peace Conference, there is a joint meeting of the Romanian and Hungarian Political Commissions to hear statements of both Governments on Transylvania. The Hungarian representative now asks only for a minor cession of Transylvania to Hungary with approximately 300,000 Hungarians, and the opening of Hungarian-Romanian negotiations for the protection of the remaining Hungarian minority in Transylvania. Tatarescu of Romania rejects all Hungarian proposals, claiming that the Hungarians in Romania enjoy full guarantees of equality and freedom and that that the area demanded by Hungary is vital to the existence of Transylvania.

Yugoslavia / Romania – September 3, 1946 (WBA)

Agreement on the regulation of the frontier service for passenger, baggage and goods traffic between the Yugoslav State Railways and the Romanian State Railways is signed in Jimbolia, Romania.

Austria – September 5, 1946 (PLC)

The Italian-Austrian treaty in Paris about the autonomy of South-Tirol is discussed. The Italian Trento is a part of the region from January 29, 1948; and so the majority of the new Trento-Alto-Adige is Italian.

Romania – September 5, 1946 (PIR)

The Peace Conference annuls the 1940 Vienna award; Transylvania is restored within the borders of Romania.

Poland / Soviet Union / U.S. – September 6, 1946 (PLC)

The U.S. declares that the Polish borders are not permanent. The Soviet Union declares that the Polish borders are permanent.

Yugoslavia – September 6, 1946 (ACY)

Eighteen men are tried in Zagreb for crimes against the people and the State. Main defendant is Erik Lisak, former Ustasa chief of police. Others are, inter alia, the reverent Ivan Salic, one of Archbishop Stepinac's secretaries and Modesto Martincic, provincial of the Franciscans in Zagreb.

Hungary – September 7-9, 1946 (REV)

The Independent Smallholders' Party (FKGP) and the Hungarian Peasant Association organize Peasant Days in Budapest. The main event is a mass rally in Hősök tere (Heroes' Square) addressed by Prime Minister Ferenc Nagy.

Bulgaria – September 8, 1946 (PLC)

A Bulgarian referendum agrees to proclaim the republic with the approval of 92.3% of the votes. The participation rate is 92.7%.

Romania – September 9, 1946 (PIR)

At the Paris Conference, the Romanian representatives request that Hungary pays war reparations to Romania, mainly for objects taken from Transylvania and the restoration of railways.

Bulgaria – September 9, 1946 (KCA)

At the Paris Conference Great Britain and South Africa strongly oppose Bulgarian demands for ceding Greek territory in western Thrace to Bulgaria.

Romania – September 10, 1946 (KCA)

At the Paris Conference, the Romanian Political Commission accepts a British amendment to the Romanian treaty. It consists of a clause protecting racial and religious minorities in Romania.

Hungary – September 12, 1946 (HC)

After an interpellation in parliament, the deputies of FKGP, the Freedom Party and the Civil Democratic Party vote against Minister of Interior László Rajk. Asked by the Political Committee of the FKGP, Rajk stays in office.

Romania – September 12, 1946 (PIR)

In a session of the Military Commission of the Peace Conference, Romanian delegate Dumitru Dămăceanu presents the observations of the Romanian government concerning the military clauses of the peace treaties.

Soviet Union / U.K. / U.S. – September 12, 1946 (LBC)

In a speech delivered in New York, Secretary of Commerce Henry A. Wallace

condemns U.S. intervention in Eastern Europe and criticizes the tough political line against the Soviet Union: "The tougher we get the tougher the Russians will get." According to Wallace, American foreign policy cannot rely upon the U.K. alone. America must make peace with Russia. "The Russians have no more business in stirring up native communists to political activity in Western Europe, Latin America and the U.S. than we have in interfering in the politics of Eastern Europe and Russia." President Truman expresses his agreement with the speech, since in his view it coincided with the line pursued by Byrnes.

Romania – September 13, 1946 (PIR)

The National Conference of the mine workers in Petroșani calls for the increase of production, the support of the Romanian delegation in Paris, the aiding of the regions affected by drought and support for BPD in elections.

Romania – September 14, 1946 (PIR)

In the name of PNT, Iuliu Maniu files an appeal to the Central Electoral Commission asking for the annulment of the table with electoral signs.

Bulgaria – September 15, 1946 (HC/KCA/PLC)

The Bulgarian National Assembly ceremoniously declares the People's Republic of Bulgaria. Vassil Kolarov, the Communist leader, becomes provisional President. Czar Simeon is forced to abdicate and immigrate.

Poland / Soviet Union – September 16, 1946 (KCA)

In a statement in Paris, Molotov upholds Poland's claim to its present western frontiers in response to the suggestion of the U.S. Government that Poland's Western frontiers might be subject to revision in the peace settlement.

Yugoslavia / U.S. – September 17, 1946 (LKT)

In a meeting with Walworth Barbour of the State Department's Southeast European Division and Acting Secretary Clayton, Yugoslav Ambassador Kosanović claims that the shot down U.S. planes were smuggling arms into Yugoslavia for those opposed to the regime. He also states that the Yugoslav authorities uncovered a "spy ring" that was headed by Eric Pridonov, a former member of the embassy staff and constant critic of the Tito regime. The "ring" supposedly still includes a Yugoslav employee of the embassy, named Milutin Stefanović.

Yugoslavia – September 18, 1946 (ACY)

Archbishop Stepinac is arrested in connection with the ongoing trial in Zagreb.

Soviet Union / U.S. – September 18, 1946 (LBC)

Secretary of Commerce Wallace's letter to President Truman: the U.S. should destroy its nuclear bombs and publish the atomic secret; it should allow the Soviet Union to receive a warm water port; the U.S. should recognize the Soviet Union's right for a security system in the framework of which the Soviet Union would be

surrounded by friendly nations. On September 20, Truman forces Wallace to resign, because of “fundamental conflict” between his and the Administration’s view on foreign policy. Roosevelt’s former Secretary of Interior Harold L. Ickes (and others) protests against the resignation.

Romania – September 19, 1946 (PIR)

“The Regulation for the application of the Nationality Statute” is published in the Official Gazette.

Soviet Union – September 20, 1946 (KCA)

Moscow announces the appointment of Georgi Zarubin as the Soviet Ambassador in London.

Romania – September 20, 1946 (PIR)

PNL president Dinu Brătianu files an appeal to the Central Electoral Commission declaring the electoral lists null and asking for their annulment.

Soviet Union – September 24, 1946 (KCA)

The *Tass* Agency issues the replies made by Stalin to questions on the international situation presented on September 17, 1946. Stalin expresses that he does not believe in the real danger of a new war and that he disregards the accusations that the policies of the European Communist Parties would be dictated by Moscow. He expresses his belief in peaceful co-existence between the Soviet Union and the Western capitalist democracies. In the British, American and French press the statements by Stalin are welcomed as an important contribution to international understanding.

Hungary / Yugoslavia – September 25, 1946 (HC)

Yugoslavia enters into diplomatic relations with Hungary.

Yugoslavia – September 25, 1946 (ACY)

Speaking at a gathering of students (and again at a meeting of the First Congress of the Croatian People's Front in the middle of October), Bakarić insists that the government is not trying to destroy or persecute the church; but church and state must be separated, all religious communities must be equal, and religious belief or the lack of it, is the private concern of the individual.

Soviet Union – September 26, 1946 (KCA)

A decree announces that disciplinary action by state and party officials will be taken against irregularities in the administration of the collective farms in the Kuibyshev and Yaroslav districts.

Yugoslavia / U.S. – September 26, 1946 (LBC)

Yugoslavia bans the activity of the U.S. Information Service (USIS) in the country.

Hungary – September 27, 1946 (REV)

The Greek Civil War begins between the communist-led partisans and the royal forces.

Poland – September 27, 1946 (KCA)

Warsaw radio announces that the Polish Government deprived Gen. Anders and 75 of his officers of Polish nationality for joining the Resettlement Corps in Britain.

Poland – September 27, 1947 (KCA)

Inter-party coalition negotiations break down, allegedly due to the “unhelpful attitude” of the Peasant Party led by Mikolajczyk. The four pro-Government parties announce the formation of their (left wing) bloc.

Germany – September 30-October 1, 1946 (PLC)

The sentences in the Nurnberg trials that started in November 1945 are announced. Out of the 22 most important defendants 12 are sentenced to death, 7 to 10-20 years in prison and 3 are released.

Yugoslavia – September 30–October 8, 1946 (KCA)

The trial of the Archbishop of Zagreb and Roman Catholic Primate of Yugoslavia, Aloysius Stepinac, takes place in the people’s Court of Croatia.

October 1946**Poland – October 1946 (PLC)**

The National Council is formed with 444 members. The biggest group within the Council is the communist Polish Worker’s Party with 135 members.

Yugoslavia – October 1946 (ACY)

The Vicar-General of Prekmurje (Slovenia), Ivan Jerič, and others are tried before a military court in Maribor, accused of contacts with émigré groups in Austria.

Romania – October 1, 1946 (PIR)

Diplomatic relations between Romania and Argentina are re-established at the level of legation.

Romania – October 3, 1946 (PIR)

The law court in Topoloveni declares Ion Mihalache, PNT Vice-President, unworthy of being on the electoral lists because he had fought as a volunteer on the Eastern Front.

Soviet Union – October 3, 1946 (KCA)

It is announced in Moscow that the name “Red Army” is changed to “Soviet Army” (see: February 25).

Soviet Union / U.S. – October 3, 1946 (LBC)

Byrnes's speech in Paris: he agrees with Stalin that "there is no immediate danger of war" and hopes that "this statement will put an end to the unwarranted charges that any nation or group of nations is seeking to encircle the Soviet Union." The U.S. and other nations have no wish to surround the Soviet Union, and policies leading to war must be avoided.

Romania – October 4, 1946 (PIR)

The Trade Union of writers, artists and journalists is founded under the presidency of the writer Mihail Sadoveanu.

Hungary – October 6, 1946 (REV)

At the instigation of the Hungarian Communist Party (MKP), the Budapest and provincial political police departments are brought under direct supervision of the Interior Ministry and combined into the State Protection Department (ÁVO) of the Hungarian State Police, under the command of Gábor Péter (MKP).

Romania – October 6, 1946 (PIR)

In the presence of King Mihai I, Patriarch Nicodim and members of the government, the orthodox Cathedral of Timisoara is hallowed; construction began in 1936.

Soviet Union / Sweden – October 7, 1946 (KCA)

Trade negotiations between Sweden and the Soviet Union end in an agreement, providing for the re-establishment of the normal flow of the reciprocal trade between the two countries.

Poland – October 7, 1946 (PLC)

In Poland the oppositional Peasants Party refuses to join the coalitional government led by the communists. Thus, the former members of the London government in exile leave the government.

Yugoslavia – October 8, 1946 (OEH)

An order on the nationalization of credit banks is issued.

Soviet Union – October 9, 1946 (KCA)

A council for *Kolkhoz* Affairs to regulate the administration of the collective farms in the Soviet Union is created, headed by Andreyev.

Poland – October 9, 1946 (KCA)

The Peasants Party decides to participate in the elections on an independent basis and not as a part of the *bloc*.

Romania October 10, 1946 (PIR)

The Paris Peace Conference approves, article by article, the Peace Treaty with

Romania.

U.S. representative Senator Vandenberg stresses the economic aspects of the Romanian treaty and the importance of free Danubian navigation, while Bevin of the U.K. stresses the principle of non-discrimination.

Romania October 10, 1946 (PIR)

The Romanian Credit Institute is reorganized.

Yugoslavia – October 11, 1946 (KCA)

Aloysius Stepinac is found guilty of anti-national activities during the occupation and collaborating with the enemy, and sentenced to 16 years of hard labor, loss of civic rights and the confiscation of his property.

Bulgaria – October 11, 1946 (KCA)

The Bulgarian Peace Treaty is discussed in the Paris Peace Conference. Polish Representative Wierbowski holds the view that the Bulgarian reparation payments to Greece are excessive, a view supported by the Yugoslavian and the American representatives. It is agreed that Bulgarian borders will return to those of January 1, 1941, and that the Bulgarian frontier adjacent to Greece will be demilitarized.

Soviet Union – October 12, 1946 (PLC)

The Jewish Antifascist Council is accused of nationalism in the Soviet Union. An anti-Zionist campaign is started.

Hungary /Czechoslovakia – October 12, 1946 (KCA)

The Hungarian Peace Treaty is discussed in the Paris Peace Conference, the debate focuses mostly on the reparations clause, which is upheld by 12 votes. The rest of the clauses remain the same except for a secession to Czechoslovakia of a small area (3 villages) close to Bratislava to Czechoslovakia.

Czechoslovakia – October 14, 1946 (KCA)

The Czechoslovak Government adopts a two-year economic plan, increasing the output of all commodities above the 1937 level.

Yugoslavia / Vatican – October 14, 1946 (ACY)

L'Osservatore Romano publishes a decree of the Sacred Congregation of the Council excommunicating all of those who took part physically or morally in Archbishop Stepinac's trial.

Romania – October 15, 1946 (PIR)

The draft text of the law against commercial speculation with food products is made available for public debate.

Czechoslovakia / U.S. – October 16, 1946 (LBC)

The State Department revokes the remaining \$40 million of the \$50 million loan to

Czechoslovakia and instructs the Export-Import Bank to suspend talks on another \$50 million loan. The reason is the Czechoslovak government's pro-Soviet policy. Prague supports the Soviet notion that the U.S. extended loans for "imperialistic" purposes.

Romania – October 17, 1946 (KCA)

King Mihai I signs a decree providing for general elections to be held on November 19, 1946. Only former Fascists and Iron Guard members, as well as individuals who had fought voluntarily against the Allies during the War, would be barred from voting. Prior to the elections the leaders of the two main opposition parties criticize the Groza Government for its persecution of political opponents and seeking to falsify the elections to ensure the Governments' return to power. The U.K. and the U.S. send several notes to the Romanian Government, demanding that elections be free and fair. The American note especially points out that the opposition parties were fully denied the use of broadcasting facilities and were under severe restrictions of issuing their own publications.

Hungary – October 19, 1946 (HC)

The "*Szabad Nép*" publishes the letter of the Executive Committee of the Left Wing Bloc to the FKGP. The main demands in the letter: the decrease of prices, the support of the new landowners, the nationalization of the banks, the democratic reform of the civil service and the fight against the reaction.

East Germany – October 20, 1946 (PLC)

Regional elections in the Soviet-occupied zone of Germany take place.

Participation rate: 90.7%. Proportion of invalid votes: 5.0% (512,000). The SED receives 47.5% of the votes and wins in all five provinces (the LDP receives 24.6% of the votes, the CDU 24.3%).

In the Berlin elections, where the SPD and the SED run separately, the SPD wins with 48.7%, second the CDU with 22.1% and third the SED with 19.8%.

Participation rate: 85.9%.

Romania – October 21, 1946 (PIR)

PNT, PNL and PSD conclude – through their leaders, Iuliu Maniu, Dinu Brătianu and Constantin Titel Petrescu – an electoral accord for the defense of the freedom of the elections.

Hungary – October 22, 1946 (HC)

The Political Committee of the FKGP answers the October 18 letter of the Left Wing Bloc. It approves the demands, but rejects the reform of voting rights. It repeats its own demands.

Hungary / Yugoslavia – October 22-30, 1946 (HC)

The Yugoslavian People's Republic convicts Colonel Ferenc Szombathelyi, former

chief of the general staff and eight of his associates. They all receive the death penalty and are executed.

Albania – October 22, 1946 (KCA/PLC)

A military conflict arises between Albania and the U.K. over the Corfu Channel (a total of 44 seamen and officers are killed). The International Court in the Hague rules in favor of the U.K. on April 9, 1949, which claims the Corfu Channel is international.

Bulgaria / U.K. / U.S. – October 23, 1946 (KCA)

The U.S. and British Governments decide to send representatives to the Bulgarian Government due to the unsatisfactory electoral conditions in the country.

Romania – October 23, 1946 (PIR)

A common session of the central committees of PCR and PSD, and their candidates on the lists of the BPD takes place.

Yugoslavia / U.K. / Trieste – October 23, 1946 (LBY)

British Prime Minister Clement Attlee pledges at the Foreign Affairs debate of the House of Commons that Anglo-American troops will remain on the Morgan Line until an agreement is reached and implemented.

Romania – October 24, 1946 (PIR)

The national conference of the BPD candidates takes place in the Dalles Hall.

Soviet Union / Sweden – October 26, 1946 (KCA)

An air agreement signed between Sweden and the Soviet Union.

Bulgaria – October 27, 1946 (PLC/ KCA)

New parliamentary elections in Bulgaria take place. Participation rate: 94.3%. The National Front wins with 70.8% (364 seats out of 465). Within the coalition the BKP receives 53.7% of the votes (277 seats). The strongest opposition, the National Farmer's Ally (Petkov-Sulcev Party), led by Nikola Petkov receives 28.7% of the votes (89 seats). Petkov claims that many opposition deputies and adherents have been arrested and placed in labor camps before the elections.

Soviet Union / Poland / U.S. – October 28, 1946 (LBC/KCA)

Stalin's interview: the USSR is still interested in receiving a U.S. loan; in his view the U.S.-Soviet tension has not grown; Poland's boundaries are final. The presence of the U.S. fleet in the Mediterranean is of no concern to the USSR.

Stalin claims that the most serious threats to world peace are the instigators of a new war, namely "Churchill and people of like mind in Britain and the U.S." He claims that the Soviet Union has not developed an atomic bomb of its own.

Soviet Union – October 29, 1946 (HC)

The Soviet Union introduces a proposal in the U.N. about disarmament.

Czechoslovakia – October 29, 1946 (KCA)

The last organized population transfer of Germans from Czechoslovakia takes place. Prague announces that since early 1946, a total of 1,415,000 Germans had been sent to the U.S. zone of Germany and 750,000 to the Soviet zone, with 311,000 Germans remaining in the country.

Hungary – October 30, 1946 (HC)

Negotiations between parties begin about the solutions of the governing coalition's problems and about the demands of the Left Wing Bloc.

Romania – October 30, 1946 (PIR)

PNL newspaper, "*The Liberal*", publishes "The Word of C.I.C. Brătianu addressed to the country and the manifest-program of PNL."

Hungary / The Netherlands – October 31, 1946 (KCA)

The Hungarian Government decides to resume diplomatic relations with the Netherlands.

November 1946**Bulgaria / U.K. – November 2, 1946 (KCA)**

Reports from the British representation in Bulgaria claim that the elections in Bulgaria were carried out in unsatisfactory conditions. Opposition meetings were broken up by Government supporters, and at least four opposition candidates were murdered.

Hungary / Soviet Union / France / U.K. / U.S. – November 3-December 12, 1946

The Council of Foreign Ministers meets in New York and finalizes the text of the peace treaties with the defeated European countries, including Hungary.

Hungary – November 3, 1946 (HC)

Led by Árpád Szakasits, a Social-Democratic party delegation travels to Paris and London.

Hungary – November 3-4, 1946 (HC)

The national convention of the National Peasant Party takes place in Budapest. It refuses Imre Kovács's proposal to join the Independent Smallholder Party.

Yugoslavia / Italy – November 3, 1946 (OEH)

The leader of the Italian Communist Party and former Minister of Justice Palmiro Togliatti meets Tito in Belgrade and discusses the possibilities of solving the Trieste problem.

Romania – November 4, 1946 (KCA)

The Romanian reply to the Western note states that the election campaign is being freely conducted and that the Anglo-American representations constitute an “infringement of Romanian sovereignty”.

Czechoslovakia / U.K. / U.S. – November 7, 1946 (LBC)

Great Britain extends a \$10 million loan to Prague. The U.S. terminates loans to Czechoslovakia.

Albania / U.S. – November 8, 1946 (KCA)

The American Government announces the withdrawal of the American representative in Tirana due to the Albanian government “failing to confirm the continuing validity of all treaties and agreements in force between the U.S. and Albania as on April 7, 1939, the date of the Italian invasion of Albania.”

Poland / U.K. – November 9, 1946 (KCA)

Jerzy Michalowski is appointed Polish Ambassador to Britain.

Romania – November 11, 1946 (PIR)

The Martial Court opens the trial of the leaders and members of the resistance organizations “Sumanele negre”, “The National Resistance Movement”, “The Hajduks of Avram Iancu” and the “Resistance Group Sinaia”. Sentences given on November 18 range from 12 years imprisonment to lifetime forced labor and death.

Albania / U.K. – November 12, 1946 (KCA)

The Albanian legation in Belgrade announces that the Albanian Government made a second protest against Britain for the “unilateral decision of the British Government to sweep the Corfu Straits, which are Albanian territorial waters.”

Albania / U.K. – November 14, 1946 (KCA)

The Albanian Government sends a telegram to U.N. Secretary-General Trygve Lie, calling attention to the British violation of Albanian water territories, and ships provocatively “sailing in war formation”.

Poland / Soviet Union – November 15, 1946 (KCA)

Polish Marshal Rola-Zymierski and Soviet Marshal Rokossovsky sign an agreement providing for the evacuation of Soviet forces from areas in Western Poland.

Romania – November 17, 1946 (PIR)

PNTȚ organizes a great electoral meeting in the National Theater Square.

Hungary / U.K. – November 18, 1946 (KCA)

Great Britain and Hungary resume trade relations.

Romania – November 18, 1946 (PIR)

The gas pipe connecting Transylvania with Bucharest is opened.

Soviet Union – November 18, 1946 (KCA)

The Soviet newspaper *Red Star* announces that Marshal Ivan Koniev has been appointed Commander-in-Chief of all the Soviet ground forces.

Romania – November 19, 1946 (KCA/PLC/PIR)

Parliamentary elections are held. The participation rate is 88.2%. The Communist-led coalition (BPD) wins 347 seats (68.7%), the National Peasant Party 33 (12.7%) and the Hungarian Popular Alliance 29 (8.2%). On November 21, the Ministry of the Interior announces that six people were killed in unrest surrounding the elections, allegedly due to opposition provocation.

Hungary / Czechoslovakia – November 19-February 25, 1946 (PLC)

Following the 1945 Benes decrees, approximately 60,000 Hungarians from Slovakia are deported to the Sudetenland area.

Hungary – November 20, 1946 (HC)

The FKGP replaces some of its ministers. Antal Balla and István Dobi leave the Government. József Bognár becomes the Minister of Information, Károly Bárányos becomes the Minister of Agriculture and János Erőss becomes the Minister of Public Supply.

Bulgaria November 22, 1946 (PLC)

Communist leader Dimitrov forms a new Bulgarian government.

Romania – November 22, 1946 (KCA)

Opposition parties protest against accusations of provocation during the November 19 elections. They accuse the government of “terrorism” and “falsification of the ballot and of official records”. U.S. Under-secretary of State Dean Acheson declares that the U.S. cannot regard the elections as fair and will not recognize their validity.

Romania November 23, 1946 (PIR)

The Official Gazette publishes the law decree on the functioning of the Council of Ministers and the organization of its presidency.

Soviet Union / Sweden – November 23, 1946 (KCA)

A new Moscow-Stockholm airway is opened.

Poland – November 24, 1946 (PSN)

The press publishes an interview with Communist Party leader Boleslaw Bierut. He states that he sees no reasons for “opposing the fundamental aspirations of the State to the aspirations of the Church”. He claims that the Church is allowed to have

private schools and its own press, that the teaching of religion in state owned schools is obligatory, that the clergy retained property, including real estate, that the army had chaplains and that the radio broadcasts religious services. He states that the Vatican's failure to recognize the new Polish Government rests on a Germanophile attitude in the Vatican.

Yugoslavia – November 25, 1946 (KCA)

Belgrade announces that Patriarch Gavrillo, head of the Serbian Orthodox Church, has returned to Yugoslavia after an absence of 5 years and that he declared his full support for Marshal Tito and the new regime.

Hungary – November 26, 1946 (HC)

The number 23,500/1946 order of the Prime Minister is published. In order to govern the nationalized coal mines, it creates the Incorporated Company of the Hungarian Nationalized Coal Mines.

Poland – November 26, 1946 (HC)

The Polish Labor Party and the Polish Socialist Party sign a co-operation agreement.

Soviet Union / France / U.K. / U.S. – November 27, 1946 (LBC)

The Council of Foreign Ministers reaches agreement on the Trieste problem. Soviet Foreign Minister Molotov makes the most concessions.

Soviet Union / U.S. / U.K. / France – November 28, 1946 (LBC)

Byrnes accepts Molotov's proposal for the four great powers to put forward a declaration on the freedom of navigation and free trade on the river Danube and insists on inserting this into the peace treaties.

Yugoslavia / Albania – November 28, 1946 (WBA)

The following agreements on joint Albano-Yugoslav companies are signed in Belgrade: an agreement on the founding of an Albano-Yugoslav company for oil prospecting and exploitation, an agreement on the founding of an Albano-Yugoslav company for the prospecting and exploiting of ores, an agreement on the founding of an Albano-Yugoslav company for electrification, an agreement on the founding of an Albano-Yugoslav company for import and export and an agreement on the founding of an Albano-Yugoslav bank.

East Germany / Soviet Union – November 28, 1946 (KCA)

A Soviet military spokesman announces that the Soviet Zone of Germany is to be demobilized.

Hungary – November 28, 1946 (HC)

The number 23 550/1946 order of the Prime Minister is published, announcing that

the state will nationalize the bigger industrial factories starting on December 1, 1946.

Soviet Union – November 29, 1946 (KCA)

A total of 6.3 billion rubles are allocated to scientific research institutions (including those dealing with nuclear energy). *Pravda* writes that the Soviet scientists are working successfully on problems of atomic physics.

Romania – November 29, 1946 (PIR)

The conference of the representatives of the BPD parties takes place. The Romanian government is reorganized following election results.

Yugoslavia – November 29, 1946 (KCA)

Tito announces that the Yugoslav Government is drafting a Five-Year Plan to transform Yugoslavia from an agricultural into an industrial country through the introduction of heavy industries.

Romania – November 30, 1946 (KCA)

The new Cabinet is formed. It has no members from opposition parties.

December 1946

Soviet Union – December 1946 (KCA)

An article published by *Red Fleet*, a journal of the Soviet Navy, criticizes British Authorities of “half-heartedness” in directing a northern convoy to the Soviet Union in June 1942. Later on the *Pravda* reproves the *Red Fleet* article as “ill-conceived”.

West Germany – December 1, 1946 (PLC)

Regional elections take place in the American-occupied Bavaria (CDU 52.3%) and Hessen (SPD 42.7%).

Romania – December 1, 1946 (PIR)

In the presence of King Mihai I and the members of the government, the first session of the new parliament opens.

Germany – December 2, 1946 (PLC)

It is announced that the American and the British occupation zones are economically united (bi-zone) as of January 1, 1947.

Romania – December 2, 1946 (PIR)

The political organizations of the national minorities, The Armenian Front, the Jewish Democratic Committee, the Hungarian Popular Alliance, the Patriotic Hellenistic Union, the Bulgarian Community, reunite in a common session. They decide to support the regime and declare that they will volunteer alongside the Romanian people to support the country’s reconstruction and development.

Romania / UK – December 2, 1946 (KCA)

In London the Under-Secretary of Foreign Affairs Mayhew states that the U.K. will not recognize the validity of the Romanian elections.

Hungary – December 3, 1946 (HC)

The FKGP publishes a proposal of ten objectives for the government. It supports the nationalization of the banks and the creation of the planned economy, calls for action against the price increases and illegal traders, proposes the control of the profit-oriented corporations, the decrease of huge personal incomes, and a ban on the production of luxury goods. It also proposes the financial support of new landowners.

Yugoslavia / Greece / Albania / Bulgaria – December 3, 1946 (LUY)

In front of the UN Security Council, Greek Premier Tsaldaris claims that Albania, Bulgaria and Yugoslavia are inciting friction along the northern border.

Yugoslavia – December 4, 1946 (KCA)

The Yugoslav federal parliament approves a bill for the nationalization of private enterprises.

Romania – December 5, 1946 (PIR)

PNȚ-Maniu decides that its elected deputies will not participate in the works of the new Parliament.

Romania – December 5, 1946 (PIR)

Mihail Sadoveanu is elected President of the Assembly of Deputies.

Hungary – December 6, 1946 (HC)

Around fifteen thousand women protest against high prices in front of the Parliament Building.

Yugoslavia – December 6, 1946 (KCA)

Belgrade radio announces that the Nationalization Bill will also affect newspapers, which will be taken over “in the interest of correct information and for the better fulfillment of social and cultural tasks”.

Czechoslovakia / Austria / Bulgaria / Hungary / Poland / Romania – December 7-9, 1946 (PLC)

A meeting of the social democratic parties takes place in Prague. Participants ask for more international cooperation.

Hungary – December 8, 1946 (HC)

Károly Peyer, Ágoston Valentiny, Imre Gyorki, Gyula Pozsgai send a memorandum to the leadership of the Social-Democratic Party, sharply criticizing the policy of the party and disapproving the cooperation with the Communist Party.

The national leadership of the Social-Democratic Party discusses and rejects the objectives of the memorandum.

Yugoslavia / Soviet Union / Poland / Czechoslovakia / Bulgaria – December 8-12, 1946 (PLC)

The first post-war Pan-Slavic congress takes place in Belgrade with representatives from the Soviet Union, Poland, Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia and Bulgaria. Belgrade is chosen as the permanent seat of the Slavic congress, and the participants agree on the adherence of Slavic nations to democratic principles.

Albania / U.K. – December 9, 1946 (KCA)

A British note is sent to the Albanian Government, accusing the Albanian Government of a “deliberately hostile act” in laying mines or allowing them to be laid in the Corfu Straits. The British threaten to bring the matter to the UN Security Council.

Romania / Hungary – December 10, 1946 (PIR)

Romania re-establishes diplomatic relations at the level of political mission with Hungary.

Hungary – December 10, 1946 (HC)

Jenő Rácz, (FKGP) Minister of Finance presents the first (Forint-) budget of the country.

Yugoslavia / Bulgaria / Czechoslovakia / Poland / Soviet Union – December 12, 1946 (KCA)

The first post-war Slavic congress takes place in Belgrade with representatives from the Soviet Union, Poland, Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia and Bulgaria. Belgrade is chosen as the permanent seat of the Slavic congress, and the participants agree on the adherence of Slavic nations to democratic principles.

Hungary – December 14-16, 1946 (REV)

The Military Policy Department of the Ministry of Defense, lead by Communist György Pálffy, arrests Chief of Staff István Szent-Miklósy, János Héder and Bálint Arany, on accusations of conspiracy. The charges are aimed at politically compromising and fragmenting the Smallholders' Party.

Romania – December 15, 1946 (PIR)

The general assembly of magistrates from the entire country decides on affiliation with the General Confederation of Labor.

Romania – December 16, 1946 (PIR)

Minister of Finance Alexandrini (PNL-Tătărescu), launches the law project for the nationalization of the National Bank and compensation of investors.

Hungary – December 18, 1946 (KCA)

The Hungarian agrarian reform is officially completed. Altogether 5,600,000 cadastral yokes embracing 3,200 communities are distributed among 663,000 peasants.

Romania – December 20, 1946 (KCA)

The Romanian National Assembly adopts a law providing for the nationalization of the Bank of Romania.

Hungary / Austria – December 21, 1946 (HC)

Hungary and Austria sign an agreement in Budapest on the exchange of commodities and payments.

Germany – December 21, 1946 (KCA)

An agreement on the exchange of goods and supplies between the Anglo-American economic area and the Soviet zone is signed.

Soviet Union – December 21, 1946 (KCA)

Stalin is interviewed by Elliott Roosevelt. Stalin expresses his belief in the peaceful coexistence of the U.S. and the Soviet Union, and that the success of the United Nations depends on harmony between the U.S., the U.K. and the Soviet Union.

Poland – December 22, 1946 (KCA)

Polish rejection of the British and American notes stresses that Poland does not allow interference in its internal affairs.

Hungary / Yugoslavia – December 23, 1946 (HC)

Hungary and Yugoslavia sign an agreement about the exchange of commodities and foreign trade in Belgrade.

Soviet Union – December 25, 1946 (KCA)

The East Prussian towns of Pillau, Tilsit and Insterburg are renamed Baltisk, Sovietsk and Chernyakhovsky.

Soviet Union – December 29, 1946 (KCA)

Gromyko, permanent Soviet representative of the U.N. Security Council, is appointed Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister.

Czechoslovakia – December 31, 1946 (KCA)

The Czechoslovak population is calculated at 12,000,000, with a drop of 2,600,000 people attributed to the expulsion of the former Sudeten-German inhabitants.

Hungary – December 31, 1946 (KCA)

An official announcement in Budapest reveals that there has been a discovery of an “anti-governmental” conspiracy. Large-scale arrests of army officers and right-wing members of the Smallholders’ Party take place.

Hungary – December 30, 1946 (HC)

The Council of Ministers makes a conceptual proposal about the elimination of cartels.

Yugoslavia / U.S. – December 31, 1946-January 4, 1947 (LKT)

The Yugoslav Government tries eight employees of the U.S. Embassy in Belgrade for espionage. The prosecution names Harold Shanz, Counselor at the Embassy from 1945 to 1946; Eric Pridonov, economic analyst at the Embassy in 1945; and Lt. John D. Kosunic, Assistant Naval Attaché in 1945, as the Americans to whom the accused Yugoslavs passed their information. The court finds all of the defendants guilty of carrying on political warfare by giving state and military secrets to foreign spies. The court sentences Milutin Stefanović, the translator considered most active in the ring; Želko Sušin, a former Partisan officer; and Branko Jovanović, a journalist, to death. They are executed on 14 January 1947. The remaining five defendants receive prison terms.

January 1947**Bulgaria – 1947 (OSA)**

The Bulgarian communist government declares the Two-Year Economic Plan (1947-1948), where the main goals are overcoming the economic difficulties and the industrialization and modernization of the economic system.

Poland / Germany – January 1947 (KCA)

The Polish government recognizes the provisional Polish-German frontier and calls for complete liquidation of Prussia to prevent German militarism from rising again. It is calculated that 13% of Polish citizens perished in concentration camps and the destruction of ghettos during 1939-1945.

Yugoslavia / United States – January 1947 (LYE)

Richard Patterson, U.S. Ambassador to Yugoslavia, is replaced first by John Moors Cabot as Chargé d'affaires and then by Cavendish Cannon as Ambassador.

Yugoslavia / U.N. / Trieste – January 1947 (LUY)

The U.N. Security Council accepts responsibility for governing Trieste.

Germany / Great Britain / United States – January 1, 1947 (REV)

Agreements that come into force in Germany combine the American and British zones of occupation economically whilst retaining the political division.

Soviet Union / Norway – January 1, 1947 (KCA)

A Soviet-Norwegian trade agreement is reached, completing a series of trade agreements between the Soviet Union and the Scandinavian countries.

Poland – January 4, 1947 (PSN)

Ten former officers in the Home Army (*Armia Krajowa*) go on trial for fulfilling leadership positions in the underground organization by the name of Freedom and Independence (WiN). Their sentences are announced on February 3 and range from two years imprisonment to death.

Hungary – January 5, 1947 (HC/REV)

The Ministry of Interior publishes an official announcement about the reconnaissance of an “anti-republic plot”. According to the announcement, the goal of the conspirators was the re-establishment of the Horthy-system, based on the resetting of rights for the usage of firearms. Amongst the accused are György Donáth, Domokos Szent-Iványi, István Szent-Miklós, Bálint Arany, Károly Kiss and János Héder. Altogether 55 people are arrested.

An article by József Révai appears in *Szabad Nép* under the title “Conspirators and Privies”, which is aimed against FKGP.

Poland / United States – January 5, 1947 (KCA)

The U.S. Government delivers notes to the British and Soviet Governments to draw attention to the Polish situation and the failure of the Provisional Government to hold free and unfettered elections.

Austria / United States – January 6, 1947 (KCA)

The U.S. War Department announces that Lt.-Gen. Geoffrey Keyes will be the next Military Governor of the U.S. zone of Austria and the U.S. High Commissioner in Vienna.

Romania – January 6, 1947 (PIR)

The Ministry of National Economy decides on the rationalization of the consumption of petrol-based products.

Soviet Union / UK – January 6, 1947 (KCA)

Field-Marshal Viscount Montgomery of Alamein, Chief of the British Imperial General Staff, visits Moscow.

Hungary – January 7, 1947 (HC)

The Committee of Representatives of the FKGP condemns the conspiracy announced by the Ministry of Interior.

Poland / Soviet Union / Great Britain / United States – January 7, 1947 (LBC)

The U.S. make their note to the Soviet and British public, in which the U.S. implore these countries to demand that the Polish government hold free elections. The Soviet Union turns down the U.S. request.

Romania – January 9, 1947 (PIR)

The new Administration Council of BNR is installed. Tiberiu Moşoiu, from PNL-Tătărescu, is appointed governor.

Romania / Soviet Union – January 10, 1947 (PIR)

A Romanian delegation led by Gheorghiu-Dej, Minister of the National Economy, leaves for Moscow to conclude an economic accord with the USSR.

Albania / Great Britain – January 11, 1947 (KCA)

The British Government announces that due to the unsatisfactory nature of the Albanian reply, British representative to the UN Security Council Sir Alexander Cadogan will bring the British-Albanian dispute before the Council.

Poland / Soviet Union / United States – January 13, 1947 (KCA)

The Soviet Government responds to the American note, announcing that it will not intervene in the Polish elections.

Hungary – January 14, 1947 (HC)

The National Assembly passes the 1947 law on the end of the land reform. Throughout the land reform, 3,258,738 kat.hold (1,875,291.9 ha) land was split up between 642,342 land demanders. Of these people 90% are menial, agricultural workers, or small landowners.

Invited by President Tildy, the leaders of the coalition parties convene. Minister of the Interior László Rajk reports on the investigation of a conspiracy against the coalition.

Poland / Great Britain – January 14, 1947 (PSN)

Three death sentences are announced in the trial of Ksawery Grocholski and his companions. Grocholski is accused of having close contacts with underground organizations and with the British Embassy. In response the British recall their ambassador from the country.

Hungary – January 15, 1947 (HC)

Minister of Construction and Labour Endre Mistéth is arrested on charges of connection with the conspiracy. He was a member of the FKGP, but was absolved from his office on the previous day.

Soviet Union – January 15, 1947 (KCA)

A *Pravda* article criticizes the apparent denunciation of Great Britain of the Anglo-Soviet treaty.

Hungary – January 16, 1947 (HC)

The Council of Ministers decides that from February 1 the salary of low-income employees will be increased.

Romania – January 16, 1947 (PIR)

Ration cards for meat are introduced by the Ministry of National Economy. The ratio is established at 250 grams per person per week.

Soviet Union / Poland / United States – January 16, 1947 (CWC)

Soviet publication *New Times*, accuses the U.S. of interfering in Poland's internal affairs. It notes that the elections were in keeping with the Potsdam conference and rejects American claims that Poland's Western border was temporary pending a German peace treaty.

Yugoslavia / Council of Foreign Ministers – January 16, 1947 (OEH)

In its memorandum to the Council of Foreign Ministers in London, the Yugoslav Government maintains its claim on South Carinthia.

Hungary – January 17, 1947 (REV)

The Council of Ministers agrees to suspend the parliamentary immunity of Smallholder MPs László Gyulai, Tibor Hám, János Horváth, Pál Jaczkó, Sándor Kiss, Kálmán Saláta, László Vatai and Vince Vörös. All but Saláta and Vörös are already in custody before Parliament suspends their immunity on January 21. The Political Committee of the Independent Smallholders' Party (FKGP) soon expels them from the party for their 'right-wing conduct'.

Poland – January 19, 1947 (PSN)

Parliamentary elections are held. Official results give the Communist led Democratic Bloc 80.1% of the vote and 394 seats. The Polish Peasant Party receives 10.1% of the votes and wins 28 seats. The elections are highly corrupt. The Peasant Party's ballots are annulled in ten out of fifty two districts, activists are intimidated and sometimes murdered, many other voters are forced to vote in public.

Romania / Bulgaria / Hungary / Italy / United States – January 20, 1947 (PIR)

James Byrnes, U.S. State Secretary signs the peace treaties with Romania, Italy, Hungary and Bulgaria.

Albania / Great Britain / United Nations – January 20, 1947 (KCA)

The British complaint comes before the UN Security Council. The Soviet Union opposes placing the matter in the Council because the Albanian Government is ready to settle the issue by negotiation. By a 10-0 vote (with the Soviet Union abstaining), the Council agrees to put the British complaint on the agenda.

Czechoslovakia / East Germany – January 20, 1947 (PLC)

The *Sorb* National Council (representing the Western Slav ethnic minority group in East Germany) expresses its hope to join Czechoslovakia in a memorandum.

Czechoslovakia – January 20, 1947 (KCA)

A Czechoslovak memorandum calls for Allied control over Germany and for the restoration of the 1938 frontier.

Poland – January 23, 1947 (KCA)

Deputy Prime Minister Mikołajczyk issues a statement in which he announces that he will appeal to the Supreme Court to declare the elections null and void.

Poland / US – January 28, 1947 (LBC)

According to the State Department, Poland has violated the Potsdam and the Yalta Declarations since it has employed coercion and intimidation against democratic elements during the election campaign. The U.S. reserves the right for “full liberty of action” for the future in connection with Poland. Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee Senator Arthur H. Vandenberg demands the establishment of responsibility for the Polish electoral abuses.

Bulgaria – January 29, 1947 (KCA)

All former members of the Bulgarian diplomatic service are ordered to return to Bulgaria by March 15 on penalty of deprivation of citizenship.

Czechoslovakia / Ireland – January 29, 1947 (KCA)

An air agreement is signed between Ireland and Czechoslovakia.

Soviet Union / Bulgaria / Hungary / Romania / Finland / Italy – January 29, 1947 (PIR)

Soviet Minister of Foreign Affairs Molotov signs the peace treaties with Romania, Italy, Hungary, Finland and Bulgaria in Moscow.

Czechoslovakia – January 30 - April 21, 1947 (KCA)

The trial of the previous Prime Minister Rudolf Beran, General Jan Syrový and others takes place. Both aforementioned are found guilty of collaborating with the Germans and of contributing towards destruction of the pre-war Czechoslovak Republic. They are sentenced to 20 years imprisonment.

Hungary – January 31 - February, 1947 (HC)

The 35th Congress of the Social-Democratic Party begins. It sides with continuing the definite leftwing political line and the solidification of the workers' united front. It condemns Károly Peyer and his colleagues for their destabilizing and anti-party policy and reelects Árpád Szakasits as the party's general secretary.

Germany – January 1947, (KCA)

The population of the Russian zone of Germany is announced to be 17,313,581.

February 1947

Soviet Union – February, 1947 (KRI)

H.A Voznisenkii becomes a member of the Politburo.

Yugoslavia / Burma – February 1947 (RYN)

Burmese delegates to the British Empire Communist Conference held in London return home via Yugoslavia. Although the Yugoslav and Burmese communists also meet at the Calcutta Conference of Asian Communists in February 1948, the latter lose interest in the Yugoslavs by June 1948.

Hungary – February 2, 1947 (KCA)

Altogether the total number of those arrested on charges of anti-government plotting is announced to be 255 people.

Finland / Soviet Union – February 3, 1947 (KCA)

A Soviet-Finnish agreement on former German claims against Finland is reached. Finland will provide supplies to the Soviet Union worth 3 billion Finnish marks, hand over a defense vessel and cede more areas in Northern Finland. The agreement further decreases Finland's capacity to export to countries outside the Soviet Union.

Hungary – February 4, 1947 (HC)

The Political Committee of the FKGP excludes 13 representatives from the party for their participation in the conspiracy against the Republic and for their support for rightwing ideologies. An additional five representatives, who disagree with the decision, decide to leave the party. A sixth member of the party resigns as representative.

Poland – February 4, 1947 (PSN)

The parliament passes a law on the election of the President of the Republic. The next day Bierut is voted to Presidency. At the time he is not a party member as the law forbids the president from holding any other posts. A cabinet is formed with Josef Cyrankiewicz as Prime Minister, and Wladyslaw Gomulka of the Polish Workers Party and Antoni Korzycki of the pro-government Peasant Party as deputies.

Bulgaria / Hungary / Romania / Finland / Italy / Great Britain – February 4, 1947 (PIR)

Ernest Bevin, British Minister of Foreign Affairs signs the peace treaties with Romania, Bulgaria, Finland, Hungary and Italy.

Yugoslavia / Soviet Union – February 4, 1947 (WBA)

Yugoslavia and the Soviet Union agree on the founding of the Yugoslav-Soviet Danubian Shipping Joint Stock Company, (JUSPAD) and the Yugoslav-Soviet Civil Air Transport Joint Stock Company, (JUSTA).

Hungary – February 7, 1947 (KCA)

Communist Minister of the Interior Rajk asks the National Assembly to withdraw the Parliamentary immunity of Smallholders' Party General Secretary Béla Kovács, in order to enable his arrest due to his involvement in plans to form a counter-revolutionary government abroad. The Smallholders' Party strongly refutes these charges and protests against the attempts of the leftist parties to drive a wedge between the peasants, workers and the intelligentsia. FKGP furthermore demands the establishment of a parliamentary investigation commission concerning this issue. The Assembly votes in favour of this proposal, but the left-wing bloc refuses to recognize the results and decides to boycott the commission in the future.

Hungary – February 8, 1947 (HC)

A special convention of the Council of Ministers assembles to discuss the alleged conspiracy against the republic. It disapproves the proposal of the FKGP, which intended to set up a special committee to investigate the case.

Hungary – February 8, 1947 (KCA)

A compromise is reached according to which a parliamentary investigation commission will not be set up, but the committee that had already been formed to investigate the matters will be given greater powers, averting the breakdown of the Coalition. A fresh crisis, however, evolves over the question of the parliamentary immunity of Béla Kovács.

Yugoslavia – February 8, 1947 (KCA)

Amnesty is offered to all Yugoslavs abroad.

Hungary – February 9, 1947 (HC)

The ashes of Zsigmond Kunfi, Commissar of the Communist Government of 1919, is transported back from Vienna and buried.

Soviet Union – February 9 - 16, 1947 (KCA)

Elections to the Supreme Soviet of the 16 Union Republics take place throughout the Soviet Union. Stalin receives 100% of the votes cast in his Moscow constituency and returns as a deputy for the Russian Soviet Republic.

Bulgaria / France / Great Britain / Soviet Union / United States / Greece – February 10, 1947 (KCA)

The peace treaty with the Allies is signed in Paris. Bulgaria protests against the reparations to Greece and the refusal of the Allies to consider Bulgaria's claims for an outlet to the Aegean.

Finland / France / Great Britain / Soviet Union / United States – February 10, 1947 (KCA)

A peace treaty with the Allies is signed in Paris. The Soviet Union obtains the areas of the Karelian Isthmus, Viborg and the territory west of the Lake Ladoga

(including Sortavala), as well as frontier rectifications in her favor further north. The area of Petsamo is also ceded to the Soviet Union, meaning that Finland no longer has direct access to the Arctic Ocean. The Soviet Union further announces a 50-year lease of the strategically important peninsula of Hanko for the establishment of a Soviet naval base. The Åland islands are to remain Finnish but demilitarized.

Hungary / Czechoslovakia / Romania / France / Great Britain / Soviet Union / United States – February 10, 1947 (KCA/REV)

A peace treaty with the Allies is signed in Paris. Hungary protests against the plans for the expulsion of the Hungarian minority from Slovakia and the Allies' refusal to consider minor frontier rectifications in Transylvania in Hungary's favor. Hungarian frontiers with Yugoslavia, Soviet Union, Romania and Czechoslovakia shall be those that existed in January 1, 1938. Moreover, Hungary cedes territory to Czechoslovakia on the south bank of the Danube close to Bratislava. The Hungarian population is given a choice of voluntarily leaving the area under the provisions of the Czechoslovak-Hungarian agreement on population exchanges on February 27, 1946. Hungary renounces the whole of Transylvania to Romania and also a part of Ruthenia and Eastern Slovakia, re-annexed from Czechoslovakia in 1938. Hungary also renounces all Yugoslav territory re-annexed during the war. The state of war between Romania and Hungary is terminated. Hungary is authorized to have 70,000 men under arms. (The strength of the Hungarian Army at the time is 14,000 men).

Romania / France / Great Britain / United States – February 10, 1947 (KCA)

A peace treaty with the Allies signed in Paris. Romania expresses gratitude at the return of Transylvania but criticizes the reparations clauses as excessive and unjust.

Bulgaria – February 10, 1947 (OSA)

The Dimitrov government signs the Peace Treaty with the Allied and Associated powers and ratifies it by a vote of the Grand National Assembly on August 25, 1947. By doing this, the Bulgarian government accepts to take all measures to secure that all its citizens can enjoy basic human rights and fundamental freedoms, such as freedom of expression, press, publication, religion, association, and political opinion.

Bulgaria / Great Britain – February 11, 1947 (KCA)

British *de jure* recognition of the Bulgarian government.

Hungary / Romania – February 11, 1947 (HC)

Romanian Prime Minister Groza Petru announces that he wishes to enter a customs union with Hungary, and the two countries have already agreed with this conceptually.

Soviet Union / United States – February 14-16, 1947 (KCA)

Minister of Foreign Affairs Molotov protests a statement by Dean Acheson, U.S. Under-Secretary of State, who declares Soviet Foreign Policy to be “aggressive and expansionist”.

Hungary – February 15, 1947 (HC)

The U.S. minister in Budapest tells the Hungarian Government that the U.S. raises the loans that were previously given to Hungary to \$30 million.

Poland / United States – February 15, 1947 (LBC)

In protest against his government’s Polish policy, the U.S. ambassador in Warsaw, Arthur Bliss Lane resigns. According to Lane U.S. policy is not efficient enough to preclude communist seizure of power.

Soviet Union – February 15, 1947 (KRI)

Marriages between Soviet citizens and foreigners are banned.

Hungary / Yugoslavia – February 16, 1947 (HC)

Hungary and Yugoslavia sign an economic agreement.

Hungary – February 19, 1947 (HC)

The Political Committee of the FKGP absolves Béla Kovács from his role as Party General Secretary, because, as the Ministry of the Interior claims, he participated in the conspiracy against the republic. His successor is István Balogh.

Poland – February 19, 1947 (PSN)

The law “On the System and Prerogatives of the Highest Authorities of the Republic of Poland” is passed, defining the roles of the Diet (the parliament), the President and the Government. Often called the “little constitution,” the law is in force until July 1952, when the Constitution of the Polish People's Republic is passed. The main novelty of the new law is the creation of the Council of State headed by the President.

Yugoslavia – February 19, 1947 (KCA)

A British Brigadier is assassinated in Pula.

Hungary – February 20, 1947 (KCA)

Béla Kovács of the Smallholders Party voluntarily resigns his party offices, denying any involvement in anti-republican plots, but assuming political responsibility.

Romania / Soviet Union – February 20, 1947 (PIR)

Negotiations between the Romanian delegation and the Soviet Government end in Moscow with the signing of a new economic accord between the two countries.

Hungary – February 21, 1947 (KCA)

President Tildy and Prime Minister Nagy refuse to lift the immunity of Béla Kovács on grounds of insufficient evidence of his involvement in anti-republican plotting.

Czechoslovakia – February 21, 1947 (KCA)

University of Olomouc opens.

Poland – February 22, 1947 (KCA)

The Polish *Sejm* unanimously votes for a far reaching amnesty bill affecting some 48,000 political or otherwise, prisoners.

Hungary – February 24, 1947 (KCA)

Béla Kovács announces his willingness to appear as a witness before the Hungarian police and judicial authorities.

Romania / Soviet Union – February 24, 1947 (KCA)

A Soviet-Romanian trade agreement is reached.

Hungary – February 25, 1947 (REV)

Béla Kovács is interrogated by the State Protection Department (ÁVO) in Budapest on suspicion of involvement in the conspiracy against the republic. As he leaves the ÁVO building at Andrassy út 60, he is arrested by officers of the Soviet secret police (NKVD), taken to the NKVD prison at Baden bei Wien in Austria, then sentenced, without a trial, to 25 years' imprisonment and deported to the Soviet Union.

Germany – February 25, 1947 (PLC)

The Allied Controll Council formally abolishes the autonomy of Prussia.

Hungary – February 26, 1947 (KCA)

It is announced that Béla Kovács is charged with “organizing a secret armed anti-Soviet terrorist group” and “actively participating in the organization of espionage directed against the Soviet Army”. After the arrest of Béla Kovács the left-wing bloc in the Hungarian National Assembly calls for further purge measures, including the expulsion of 50 Smallholders' deputies and four of their ministers.

Hungary – February 27, 1947 (HC)

The People's Court begins the trials of the “anti-Republic conspirators” in Budapest.

March 1947

Soviet Union – March 1947 (KRI)

Bulganin is appointed Minister of Defense.

Soviet Union – March 1947 (PLC)

The Soviet Union establishes the Slavic Committee, as a reformed version of the former Panslavic Committee.

Yugoslavia – March 1947 (ABC)

Church sources claim that Croatian Premier Vladimir Bakarić visited Archbishop Stepinac in prison in Lepograva and attempted to convince him to sign a request for amnesty which would free him from prison and allow him to leave the country. The Archbishop refused to do so and demanded the reopening of his trial under a neutral, non-Communist court.

Yugoslavia / United States – March 1947 (LKT)

President Truman reluctantly accepts Richard C. Patterson's resignation as ambassador to Yugoslavia.

Bulgaria – March 1, 1947 (KCA)

The Bulgarian population is counted at 7,020,863 people, 1,662,255 of which live in urban areas.

Hungary – March 2, 1947 (HC)

The Hungarian and Czechoslovak foreign ministers negotiate the execution of the relocation of Hungarians from Czechoslovakia. The negotiations are broken on 7 March.

Poland / Soviet Union – March 3, 1947 (KCA)

An agreement on Soviet economic and military aid to Poland, including an interest free loan of \$27,875,000 in gold as well as the repatriation of Poles still living in the Soviet Union as a result of the war, is signed.

Soviet Union – March 3, 1947 (KCA)

The Dneprostroi hydroelectric power station is reopened.

Bulgaria / Hungary / Romania / Italy / United States – March 4, 1947 (LBC)

Secretary of State Marshall and his predecessor Byrnes urge the rapid ratification of the Bulgarian, Hungarian, Italian, and Romanian peace treaties in the Senate in the hope that this may lead to quick withdrawal of Soviet troops.

Hungary / Soviet Union / Great Britain / United States March 5-6, 1947 (HC)

American-British-Soviet messages are exchanged about the conspiracy against the Republic of Hungary.

Hungary / Soviet Union / Great Britain / United States – March 6, 1947 (LBC)

The U.S. publishes its diplomatic note of March 5 sent to London, Moscow and Budapest in which it accuses the Soviet High Command of creating a political crisis in Hungary with the arrest of Smallholder Party General Secretary Béla

Kovács. They demand immediate investigation on the part of the ACC and the Hungarian government. According to the note, the Soviet intervention benefits the communists, who wish to create a minority dictatorship instead of an elected government.

Hungary – March 7, 1947 (KCA)

It is reported from Budapest that Prime Minister Ferenc Nagy has rejected the demands of the left-wing bloc for further purge measures.

Soviet Union / Argentina – March 7, 1947 (KCA)

A breakdown of trade negotiations occurs after 11 months.

Hungary / Soviet Union / Great Britain / United States – March 8, 1947 (LBC)
General Sviridov, Acting President of the ACC, refutes the American allegations of March 5.

Poland – March 8, 1947 (KCA)

The Polish *Sejm* adopts a 13-point declaration of human rights as the basis of the new constitution.

Hungary / Soviet Union / United States – March 9, 1947 (KCA)

Moscow denies U.S. accusations and states that the Smallholders' Party itself has not denied the existence of the conspiracy.

Soviet Union / France / Great Britain / United States – March 9-April 24, 1947 (LBC)

The Moscow conference of the Council of Foreign Ministers takes place. Major topics: the German and Austrian peace treaties and the question of German and Austrian reparations.

Yugoslavia – March 9, 1947 (KCA)

Former King Peter II and the royal family are deprived of Yugoslav citizenship.

Czechoslovakia / Poland – March 10, 1947 (KCA)

A Polish – Czechoslovak treaty of friendship and mutual aid is signed. It provides cooperation in order to maintain international peace, security and military aid in the case that the other party of the treaty becomes involved in a conflict with Germany or any other state allied with Germany. It also contains the expansion of mutual economic and cultural cooperation. It is agreed that all the territorial disputes between the two countries will be solved within two years of signing of the treaty. Minorities in both countries are given a legal right to national, cultural, political and economic development with their own schools and associations.

Soviet Union / Germany / Austria – March 10-April 24, 1947 (PLC)

At the sixth conference of the Council of Foreign Ministers in Moscow the allies do

not reach an agreement regarding the peace treaties of Austria and Germany. It is decided that all German prisoners of war must be released by the end of 1948.

Austria / Hungary – March 11, 1947 (KCA)

An Austro-Hungarian Trade agreement is signed after being approved by the Allied Control Commission.

Bulgaria / France / Great Britain – March 11, 1947 (KCA)

London: Foreign diplomats in Bulgaria protest against the behavior of the Bulgarian officials and militia men, as the diplomatic missions were informed on March 7 that they must turn in all Bulgarian currency they own to the Bulgarian National Bank. Militiamen interfere with the movement of visitors and the Bulgarian National Bank refuses to exchange their currency. Mme. Boeuf, correspondent of the *France-Presse* Agency, is expelled by the Bulgarian government on March 10, 1947. On March 15, 1947, an official announcement from Paris states that France calls off trade negotiations with Bulgaria. On April 18, 1947, however, a joint statement from all parties concerned claims that the misunderstandings with the Bulgarian Government have been resolved.

Hungary – March 11, 1947 (HC/REV)

The Left-Wing Bloc and the rump of the Independent Smallholders' Party (FKGP) agree to coordinate policies and “rapidly end the conspiracy.” They accept the government's working program, including the Three-Year Plan and the expansion of the health care system and education.

Hungary / Soviet Union / Great Britain / United States – March 11, 1947 (LBC)

The U.S. State Department publishes the Soviet response to the American note of March 6. According to General Sviridov, the accusation that the communists are striving for “a minority dictatorship” is “unfounded”. He deems the “American interference” in the Béla Kovács affair an “attempt to infringe on the legal rights of the Soviet occupation authorities.”

Poland – March 11-April 2, 1947 (KCA)

The trial of Rudolf Höss, the commandant of the Auschwitz concentration camp, takes place in Warsaw before the Supreme National Tribunal appointed by the *Sejm*. Hess is found guilty of all charges and is sentenced to death. He was executed on April 16, 1947 in Auschwitz.

Hungary – March 12, 1947 (KCA)

Further pressure from the Communists and Socialists results in a new coalition agreement, under which three Smallholders' members of the Cabinet withdraw.

Soviet Union / United States. March 12, 1947 (HC)

U.S. President Harry Truman announces the Truman Doctrine, according to which the U.S., for the sake of its own defense, give support to the forces that fight against Communism.

Hungary / Soviet Union / Great Britain / United States – March 12, 1947 (LBC)

In protest against Kovács's arrest, General Weems, the U.S. representative in the ACC, presents a new note to Sviridov, accusing the Hungarian communists of wanting to seize power. Simultaneously a similar British note is also presented.

Hungary – March 13, 1947 (KCA/REV)

Five new ministers are appointed to the Cabinet. The reshuffle brings in the fellow travellers and 'crypto-Communists' Lajos Dinnyés, István Dobi, Ernő Mihályfi, Miklós Nyárádi and Gyula Ortutay, as well as Péter Veress of the National Peasants' Party (NPP).

Soviet Union / Great Britain – March 13, 1947 (KCA)

The Supreme Soviet delegation arrives for a visit to Britain.

Hungary / Austria – March 14, 1947 (KCA)

Normal diplomatic relations are reached between Austria and Hungary.

Hungary – March 16, 1947 (REV)

The People's Tribunal passes sentence in the so-called Hungarian Community trial for conspiracy against the republic. György Donáth, Lajos Dálnoki Veress and Sándor András are sentenced to death. Bálint Arany and István Szent-Miklós are given life sentences, while Domokos Szent-Iványi receives 14 years, Károly Kiss 12 years and János Héder 11 years. Donáth's death sentence and the sentences on Kiss and Héder are upheld on appeal. Dálnoki Veress and Szent-Miklós's sentences are commuted to 15 years in prison, Arany's to 12 years, and András and Szent-Iványi's to 10 years. Donáth is executed on October 23, 1947.

Yugoslavia / Italy – March 17, 1947 (KCA)

The diplomatic relations between Yugoslavia and Italy are reestablished with the appointment of M. Ivecovitch as Yugoslav Ambassador to Italy.

Yugoslavia / United States – March 20, 1947 (LBC)

The U.S. turns down a Yugoslav request for \$350 million in food aid.

Soviet Union – March 21, 1947 (KCA/KRI)

Marriages between Soviet citizens and foreigners are forbidden, with no official reason given. A directive to collectivize agriculture in the Baltic States is released by the Central Committee, according to which resistance to collectivization is to be put down within three years.

Yugoslavia / Czechoslovakia – March 25, 1947 (OEH)

Yugoslavia signs a five-year agreement on investment with Czechoslovakia.

Poland / Ukraine – March 28, 1947 (PSN/PLC)

The Ukrainian Insurgent Army (UPA) kills Deputy Minister of National Defense, General Karol Swierczewski, in the Bieszczady Mountains in south-east Poland. As a response, the Polish government decides to solve the “Ukrainian problem” once and for all. With Soviet and Czechoslovak support, an armed force of 30,000 soldiers launches an operation against the partisans of the UPA. Eventually, the UPA is dissolved in Poland. From South Poland approximately 150,000 Ukrainians are relocated in the ‘rejoined territories’ in the western and northern areas of the country (the ‘Vistula project’).

Hungary – March 29, 1947 (HC)

The Russian Institution of the Pázmány Péter University in Budapest opens.

April 1947

Romania – April 2, 1947 (PIR)

Romania and Egypt reestablish diplomatic relations at the level of legation.

Romania / Soviet Union – April 3, 1947 (PIR)

The Romanian Parliament ratifies the treaty of commerce and navigation signed on February 20 with the USSR.

Hungary – April 4, 1947 (HC)

As part of the liberation memorial celebrations, the Liberty Monument on the Gellért-hill in Budapest (constructed by Zsigmond Kisfaludi Stróbl) is inaugurated.

Yugoslavia / Italy – April 5, 1947 (KCA)

Enrico Martino is appointed as the Italian Ambassador to Belgrade.

Yugoslavia / Sweden – April 12, 1947 (OEH)

Yugoslavia signs an economic agreement with Sweden.

Yugoslavia / Italy / Great Britain – April 14, 1947 (KCA)

It is announced in London that the 12.000 displaced Yugoslav individuals in Italy, housed in British camps, will be transferred to the British zone of Germany.

Hungary – April 16, 1947 (REV)

The People’s Tribunal passes sentence in the so-called Hungarian Community trial for conspiracy against the republic. György Donáth, Lajos Dálnoki Veress and Sándor András are sentenced to death. Bálint Arany and István Szent-Miklósy are given life sentences, while Domokos Szent-Iványi receives 14 years, Károly Kiss 12 years and János Héder 11 years. (Donáth’s death sentence and the sentences on

Kiss and Héder are upheld on appeal). Dálnoki Veress and Szent-Miklósý's sentences are commuted to 15 years in prison, Arany's to 12 years, and András and Szent-Iványi's to 10 years. Donáth is executed on October 23, 1947.

Czechoslovakia – April 18, 1947 (PLC)

Josef Tiso, former Slovak President, is executed in Czechoslovakia.

Finland – April 18, 1947 (KCA)

President Paasikivi of Finland ratifies the Finnish Peace Treaty and signs the law for its implementation.

Germany – April 20, 1947 (PLC)

Regional elections in the British occupational zone of Germany take place. The SPD wins in Schleswig-Holstein (43.8%) and in Southern-Saxony (43.4%). The CDU wins in North-Rhine-Westphalia (37.6%).

Romania – April 20, 1947 (PIR)

The press announces the placement of 1 million lei banknotes into circulation. As a result inflation begins a steep rise, destroying small urban property.

Soviet Union / Great Britain – April 22-8, 1947 (KCA)

Trade negotiations between Great Britain and the Soviet Union are held in Moscow. Britain is interested in timber exports from the Soviet Union and the Soviet Government is concerned with British supplies for machinery and equipment needed for reconstruction. The main objectives are exploring the possibilities of long-term future trade and finding solutions to certain procedural trading problems (mostly to do with individual contracts between British exporters and Soviet trading organizations which until that point had to be countersigned by the Soviet Trade Delegation in London).

Hungary – April 22, 1947 (HC)

The so-called "Silver Train" that carried the Hungarian treasures and silver arrives in Budapest from Frankfurt am Main.

Hungary – April 23, 1947 (REV)

The convention of the leaders of the coalition parties discusses the questions of the Three-Years Plan.

Romania – April 24, 1947 (PIR)

The Executive Committee of the Plowmen's Front decides the transformation of the Front into an organization of the working peasantry, oriented towards the "fight against the reaction from cities and villages" and "the strengthening of collaboration with the working class."

Yugoslavia / Italy – April 22, 1947 (KCA)

A comprehensive trade agreement is reached between Yugoslavia and Italy. The agreement will stay in place for five years and make Italy the second largest trade partner of Yugoslavia after Czechoslovakia.

Yugoslavia / Italy / Great Britain / United States – April 24, 1947 (KCA)

After unsuccessful requests for two years, Yugoslavia again protests against Britain and the U.S. and demands the immediate surrender of alleged Yugoslav “quislings” in Italy, whether inside or outside of Allied detention camps. The Allied response is that the Allied authorities have no responsibility for the alleged “quislings” living outside the camps.

Hungary / United Nations – April 26, 1947 (KCA)

It is announced that Hungary has made a formal application for membership to the U.N., being the first formal enemy state to do so since the signing of the peace treaties in Paris.

Yugoslavia / Soviet Union – April 26, 1947 (PLC)

Yugoslavia launches its first Five-Year Plan, based on the Soviet centralized system. The Soviets do not agree with this move. Albania does not approve the Yugoslav suggestion which calls for a joint Five-Year Plan.

Finland – April 27, 1947 (KCA)

Inter-party disagreements in Finland are set aside as a coalition government is formed and ministers retain their posts. The actual cost of war reparations to the Soviet Union in the third year (against the official total of 35.6 million gold dollars) is estimated to be 70-80 million dollars.

Yugoslavia / Czechoslovakia – April 27, 1947 (WBA)

A convention on cultural cooperation between Yugoslavia and Czechoslovakia is signed in Belgrade.

Yugoslavia – April 27, 1947 (ACY)

The Holy Episcopal *Sabor*, the assembly of bishops that is also the highest governing body of the Serbian Orthodox Church, assembles and sits for a month. Two new dioceses are created, one for Šumadia, with its see at Kragujevac, and Budimlje-Polimlje with its see at Bijelo-Polje in southern Serbia. Six new bishops are elected. The assembly also promulgates a new constitution for the church to replace the 1931 constitution.

Yugoslavia – April 28, 1947 (KCA)

The Five-Year Plan (January 1, 1947 – January 1, 1951) for the industrialization of Yugoslavia is unanimously passed by the National Assembly. The plan aims at transforming Yugoslavia from an agricultural country to an industrially self-sufficient one. Prime Minister Tito declares that the plan aims at making

Yugoslavia economically “independent of capitalist countries,” instead of being a “semi-colony.” The plan envisages exploitation of previously unindustrialized areas such as Bosnia-Herzegovina and Montenegro.

Bulgaria / Hungary / Romania / Finland / Great Britain / Italy – April 29, 1947 (PIR)

Great Britain ratifies the peace treaties with Bulgaria, Finland, Hungary, Italy, and Romania.

May 1947

Yugoslavia / United States – May 1947 (LKT)

Due to the Yugoslav Government's treatment of the prisoners of war returned to them, the U.S. government withdraws its pledge to surrender the Ustaša as a group and announces that it will reserve the right to investigate the case of each individual requested by Yugoslavia.

Hungary / Romania – May 2, 1947 (KCA/PIR)

During the “Week for Romanian-Hungarian culture,” Romanian Prime Minister Groza arrives in Hungary for a visit to attend the opening of a Romanian institute of popular education in Budapest. The visit is considered as a step towards rapprochement between Hungary and Romania. Groza stresses the need for Romanian-Hungarian cooperation in order to liquidate past disagreements and secure peace.

Poland / Great Britain – May 2, 1947 (KCA)

Poland and Great Britain reach a provisional trade agreement as a result of trade negotiations which commenced on March 3, 1947. It is announced that Poland plans to order raw materials, capital goods and machinery totaling £35,000,000 over the next three years. Meanwhile, Poland will export goods to Great Britain to a total value of £23,000,000. Discussions between Polish Prime Minister Bierut and British PM Bevin stress that Poland is in great need of repatriating those Poles working abroad.

Romania – May 2, 1947 (PIR)

A conference of the Communist leaders and army commanders takes place. Problems discussed include army equipment, the situation in the army and the relations with the Soviet Union.

Soviet Union / United States – May 3, 1947 (KCA)

A transcription of the April 9, 1947 conversation on Soviet-American relations between Stalin and U.S. Republican Harold E. Stassen is issued in Washington. In the conversation Stalin expresses his belief in the possibility of collaboration and cooperation between the free-market U.S. and state-led USSR. Stalin presses that the possibility for cooperation exists. Furthermore, he claims that the U.S. and the

USSR will gain nothing by calling each other names such as “totalitarian” and “monopolist”.

Hungary – May 4, 1947 (HC)

The 3rd national electoral convention of the National Peasant Party takes place in Budapest. According to its proclamation, the basis of Hungarian democracy is peasant-democracy. The convention considers the interest of the entire peasantry when creating its program. The party elects Péter Veress as its Chairman, and Ferenc Erdei as General Secretary.

Romania – May 5, 1947 (KCA)

The Romanian Ministry of Interior announces that an undisclosed number of people, mostly political opponents of the régime, have been arrested on charges of conspiring to overthrow the régime and “preparing and carrying out acts of terror and sabotage”.

Poland / Soviet Union – May 6, 1947 (PLC)

A Ukrainian-Polish announcement states that the program to exchange minorities is completed.

Poland / Soviet Union – May 7, 1947 (PLC)

A Polish-Soviet agreement is signed confirming that the East-Prussia temporary borderline (from Braunsberg to Goldap) will become the permanent border.

Hungary – May 10, 1947 (HC)

Large parts of the collection of the Hungarian Museum of Fine Arts arrive back in Budapest from Germany.

Yugoslavia / Hungary – May 11, 1947 (WBA)

A Treaty on Economic Cooperation in the aluminum industry between Yugoslavia and Hungary is signed in Belgrade.

Hungary – May 13, 1947 (HC)

The People’s Court announces its verdict in the trial of the white terrorist murderers of 1919-1920. Iván Héjjas and Mihály Francia-Kiss receive the death penalty (in their absence), four others receive life imprisonment, and an additional 17 people receive imprisonment from 1 to 15 years.

Hungary / Soviet Union – May 14, 1947 (HC)

Nagy travels to Switzerland for additional weeks of vacation. In his absence, government matters are led by his assistant, Mátyás Rákosi.

The Soviet Government announces that it begins the transportation of the Hungarian prisoners of war back to Hungary.

Hungary – May 14, 1947 (REV/HC)

Prime Minister Ferenc Nagy travels to Switzerland, ostensibly on holiday, to acquaint the West with the situation that has developed in Hungary. Direction of the Council of Ministers is taken over by Deputy Prime Minister Mátyás Rákosi. The Soviet Government announces that it begins the transportation of the Hungarian prisoners of war back to Hungary.

Romania – May 15, 1947 (PIR)

The Parliament adopts the law for the regulation of citizenship to certain categories of inhabitants; the law sanctions initial measures to abrogate racist legislation, and denies Romanian citizenship to persons such as those who arrived in northern Transylvania from Hungary after the 1940 Vienna award.

Germany – May 18, 1947 (PLC)

Regional elections in the French-occupied zone of Germany take place. The CDU wins.

Romania – May 19, 1947 (PIR)

In the presence of government members and the Prime Minister, the Zambaccian Museum opens, containing collections donated to the state by the great collector Krikor Zambaccian.

Courses at the “Ștefan Gheorghiu” Party University begin.

Hungary – May 22, 1947 (HC)

An assembly of the coalition parties takes place convened by President Zoltán Tildy. They discuss the issue of the nationalization of the banks.

Soviet Union / United States – May 22, 1947 (CWC)

American sources report on the launch of a new Soviet propaganda program in response to the Truman Doctrine. The propaganda offensive claims that American businessmen and German fascists plan to launch another war and that American aid to nations is used to subjugate them.

Hungary / Great Britain – May 23, 1947 (KCA)

The first round of the trade negotiations takes place between Hungary and the U.K. They are continued in London in July.

Yugoslavia / Greece / United Nations – May 23, 1947 (LUY)

The U.N. Commission of Investigation Concerning Greek Frontier Incidents votes eight to three on the issue involving Yugoslavia's, and to a lesser extent Albania's and Bulgaria's, efforts in supporting “guerilla warfare in Greece.”

Hungary / Czechoslovakia – May 24, 1947 (HC)

The representatives of Hungary and Czechoslovakia sign an agreement about the

population exchange. In the first wave, 11,127 Hungarians are to be transported to Hungary by 13 July.

Romania – May 24, 1947 (PIR)

Gheorghe Tătărescu addresses an incriminatory memoire to the BPD parties, criticizing governmental policies, especially those supported by the PCR.

Poland / Yugoslavia – May 24, 1947 (WBA)

An agreement on Economic Cooperation between Yugoslavia and Poland is signed in Warsaw. The agreement and the attached protocol provides for a permanent Polish-Yugoslav Commission for Economic Cooperation between the two countries.

Romania / Greece – May 25, 1947 (PIR)

A protest assembly is organized in Bucharest by the Macedonian-Romanian Cultural Society against the persecution of Romanians in Greece.

Romania / Bulgaria – May 26, 1947 (PIR)

A cultural convention between Romania and Bulgaria is concluded in Sofia.

Soviet Union – May 26, 1947 (KCA)

A decree is issued by the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet that abolishes the death penalty throughout the USSR. The death penalty will be replaced by confinement in reformatory labor camps for 25 years.

Hungary – May 28, 1947 (HC)

The Economic High Council makes a proposal about the nationalization of the banks. Head of the Allied Control Commission, Sviridov, gives to the Hungarian Government a document about former General Secretary of the FKGP Béla Kovács (now in custody in the Soviet Union) and the case of conspiracy against the Republic. The proposal contains charges against Prime Minister Nagy. Deputy Prime Minister Mátyás Rákosi calls for a special meeting of the council of ministers that asks Nagy to come home from his vacation in Switzerland and clarify himself.

Hungary – May 30, 1947 (HC)

Nagy announces his resignation as Prime Minister at the Hungarian legation in Bern, and that he would not fulfill the demand of the government to return to Hungary.

Romania – May 30-June 2, 1947 (PIR)

The session of the Executive Committee of the Hungarian Popular Alliance takes place in Bucharest.

Hungary – May 31, 1947 (HC, KCA)

The President appoints the new Prime Minister: Lajos Dinnyés (FKGP). His deputies: Mátyás Rákosi (MKP) and Árpád Szakasits: (SZDP). State ministers are: the two deputies and István Dobi (FKGP). Ministers: Interior: László Rajk (MKP), Housing and Public Construction: Péter Veres (NPP), Agriculture: Károly Bárányos, Defence: Lajos Dinnyés, Justice: István Ries (SZDP), Industry: Antal Bán (SZDP), Trade and co-op: Sándor Rónai (SZDP), Traffic: Ernő Gerő (MKP), Information: Ernő Mihályfi (FKGP), Foreign Affairs: Ernő Mihályfi (FKGP), Finances: Miklós Nyáradi (FKGP), Religion and public education: Gyula Ortutay (FKGP). One of the main tasks of the new Government is stated to be the nationalization of the banks.

Italy – May 31, 1947 (REV)

The De Gasperi Government is formed in Italy without the Communists.

June 1947

Hungary / Romania – June 1947 (HC)

Due to the efforts of the Hungarian Popular Alliance of Romania, the Hungarian railroad workers do not have to take Romanian language exams.

Hungary – June 1947 (KCA)

In Hungary the government crisis intensifies following the aftermath of the alleged anti-republican conspiracies in January 1947. Communist and Socialist attacks are especially directed toward Béla Kovács, former Secretary-General of the Smallholders Party and one of the most prominent peasant leaders. He stands accused of plotting to overthrow the Government earlier in the year.

Yugoslavia / United States – June 1947 (LKT)

The U.S. concludes an agreement with the International Refugee Organization to help Yugoslav refugees resettle in other countries

Hungary – June 2, 1947 (KCA)

Prime Minister Dinnyés declares that there is now peace and order in the country and that “only reactionaries and traitors” pretend there is unrest. Meanwhile it is announced that the speaker of the National Assembly, Béla Varga, (who was also accused by the Soviet Union of plotting against the republic), fled the country to join Ferenc Nagy in Switzerland.

Hungary / United States – June 2, 1947 (LBC)

In response to political events in Hungary, (Prime Minister Nagy’s forced resignation on May 31), the U.S. suspends the remaining part of the \$30 million surplus credit until the situation is clarified.

Romania – June 3, 1947 (PIR)

The Institute for Romanian-Soviet Studies is inaugurated in the Cantacuzino Palace in Bucharest, in the presence of patriarch Aleksei of Moscow.

Hungary – June 4, 1947 (KCA/HC)

The Smallholders' Party expels both Ferenc Nagy and Béla Varga. The office of General Secretary is taken by Ferenc Implom.

Aladár Szegedy-Maszák, the Hungarian Minister to Washington, announces that he will not recognize the new Government.

The first train of Hungarian prisoners of war arrives in Debrecen from the Soviet Union.

Hungary / Austria / Germany / United States – June 4, 1947 (LBC)

In response to the failure of Hungary to grant transit rights for U.S. commercial airlines, *Masovlet* (Hungarian-Soviet Airlines) may no longer fly over the U.S. zones of Austria and Germany.

Eastern Europe / United States – June 5, 1947 (LBC)

US Secretary of State Marshall's speech at Harvard University takes place, where he announces the European Reconstruction Program (Marshall Plan). The aid is officially offered to all European Countries, including the Soviet Union and the countries of Eastern Europe.

Bulgaria – June 6, 1947 (KCA)

The leader of the Agrarian Party, Nikola Petkov, is arrested on charges for plotting against the Communist-dominated Government, preparing an "armed force" and contacting members of Macedonian terrorist organizations.

Hungary – June 6, 1947 (HC/KCA)

Hungarian Minister in Paris Pál Auer, Consul-General in Brussels Csaba Perlaki and the Hungarian delegate to the International Red Cross in Geneva announce that they will not represent a government set up by a *coup d'état*.

The government relieves Aladár Szegedy-Maszák, the Minister to Washington, and Ferenc Gordon, the Minister to Bern.

Romania – June 6, 1947 (PIR)

The Parliament adopts the Law of Agricultural Goods circulation which impedes the breakdown of small peasant households (establishing the lower limit of those at 2ha) and the concentration of large estates (the maximum being established at 25ha).

Bulgaria / Great Britain / US – June 7, 1947 (KCA)

The British and American political representatives in Bulgaria request details on the arrest of Petkov. On June 8, the Bulgarian Premier gives his reply, stating that the matter is a "purely internal Bulgarian question." The British and American

representatives also protest the banning of two opposition papers, *Svoboden Narod* and *Narodno Zemedelsko Zname*.

Hungary – June 7, 1947 (KCA)

The official Hungarian News Agency publishes the alleged confession of Béla Kovács, in which he declares his active participation in planning a conspiracy by the leaders of the Smallholders' Party.

Hungary – June 7, 1947 (REV)

József Kővágó, the Smallholder Mayor of Budapest, resigns. He is succeeded on July 18 by József Bognár, who belongs to the left wing of the Independent Smallholders' Party (FKGP), which is willing to cooperate with the Hungarian Communist Party.

Romania / Yugoslavia – June 7-9, 1947 (PIR)

A Romanian governmental delegation, led by Petru Groza, pays a visit to Yugoslavia. A cultural convention between the two countries is concluded on this occasion.

Hungary – June 8, 1947 (HC)

The leadership of the Social-Democratic Party demands the nationalization of banks and chemical industry.

Poland – June 9, 1947 (PLC)

August Zaleski becomes the new Polish president of the government in exile following the death of Raczkiewicz. Tadeusz Komorowski remains Prime Minister in exile.

Hungary – June 9, 1947 (HC)

The assembly of the leaders of the coalition parties takes place in Budapest. It approves the proposal about the envisioned Three-Year Plan.

Hungary / Soviet Union / Great Britain / United States – June 9, 1947 (LBC)

The Soviet Acting Chairman of the ACC, General Sviridov, rebuffs the U.S.-British demand for information on the background of the Hungarian events.

Hungary – June 10, 1947 (HC/KCA)

A special session in the Hungarian National Assembly on the nationalization of the large commercial banks, economic Three-Year Plan and the new electoral law begins. It is announced that all large banks shall be nationalized before August 1, 1947. This act would effectively lead to ending private enterprise in Hungary by 1948. Furthermore, Minister of Justice István Riesz announces that about 10% of the electorate will lose their franchise, including "collaborationists," those sentenced for "crimes against democracy," and those who returned from Western Europe after January 1, 1947.

The Government creates the National Planning Office. Its Chairman is Imre Vajda, (SZDP), and its main Secretary is Andor Berei (MKP).

Hungary / United States – June 10, 1947 (LBC)

The US State Department publishes the exchange of letters between acting Secretary of State Acheson and former Hungarian Prime Minister Ferenc Nagy. The aim is to deny the accusations made by the Hungarian Communists who claim that the U.S. secretly pledge support to Nagy.

Poland / Ukraine – June 10, 1947 (KCA)

It is announced that those Ukrainians who refused to be repatriated from Poland to Soviet Ukraine will be transferred to the Olsztyn area of East Prussia and their Polish citizenship would be retained.

Bulgaria / Hungary / Romania / Italy / United States – June 11, 1947 (LBC)

The U.S. Senate ratifies the Bulgarian, Hungarian, Italian and Romanian peace treaties.

Hungary / Bulgaria / Soviet Union / United States – June 11, 1947 (LBC)

At the instruction of US Secretary of State Marshall and President Truman, the State Department instructs General Weems to protest in a strongly worded note to Sviridov against the Soviet Union's "flagrant" interference in Hungary.

The State Department launches a strong diplomatic offensive against Bulgaria in response to the arrest of opposition Peasant Party leader Nikola Petkov and the banning of opposition papers.

Bulgaria – June 12, 1947 (KCA)

The Bulgarian National Assembly unseats 23 Agrarian deputies on the grounds of their support for Nikola Petkov and their "unconstitutional letters of loyalty" to him.

Hungary – June 12, 1947 (HC/KCA)

The Dinnyés Government in Hungary is given special powers by the parliament for a period of four months, but the Freedom Party and 20 representatives from the Smallholders' Party oppose this. Sulyok, leader of the Freedom Party, announces in the National Assembly that the new Hungarian state is a police state and that the whole country is covered by a net of political spies and denouncers. Furthermore he claims that there is no freedom of press, speech or thought. Sulyok asserts that the "new Hungarian democracy" is a "ridiculous travesty". On the same day, Béla Varga arrives in the American zone of Germany.

The Council of Ministers approves the bill on the Three-Year Plan.

Hungary – June 12, 1947 (REV)

The trial of former minister Endre Mistéth (FKGP) and 43 associates begins in the

People's Tribunal. They are accused for their connections with the Hungarian Community conspiracy.

Albania / Yugoslavia – June 12, 1947 (WBA)

The following are signed in Belgrade: an agreement between Albania and Yugoslavia on the payments of the Albano-Yugoslav stock companies, protocol on the formation of an Albano-Yugoslav coordination commission, protocol on the formation of the Albano-Yugoslav arbitration council, treaty on trade exchange between Albania and Yugoslavia, and a protocol on the price of goods with regard to the implementation of provisions under Article 3 of the Treaty on trade exchange and payments of July 1, 1946.

Romania / United States – June 13, 1947 (LBC)

The State Department publishes a warning to Romania that the U.S. demands full and immediate compensation for the U.S. property nationalized under the new law. The total value of U.S. property in Romania is \$35 million.

Hungary – June 14, 1947 (KCA)

On his arrival to Washington from Geneva, Ferenc Nagy reiterates his view that the U.N. should carry out an investigation into the events in Hungary, on the grounds that Hungarian liberty and sovereignty are threatened.

Bulgaria / Hungary / Romania / Italy / United States – June 14, 1947 (PIR)

President Truman signs the peace treaties with Bulgaria, Hungary, Italy, and Romania.

Czechoslovakia – June 15, 1947 (KCA)

The foundation stone for rebuilding the village of Lidice (wiped out by the Germans on June 10, 1942) is laid by members of the Czechoslovak Government and foreign delegations.

Hungary / Soviet Union / United States – June 15, 1947 (LBC)

Sviridov turns down the U.S. request that the three powers investigate the Hungarian political transition, as it would constitute crude intervention in Hungary's domestic affairs.

Soviet Union / United States – June 15, 1947 (LBC)

Pravda condemns the Marshall Plan.

Czechoslovakia – June 18, 1947 (KCA)

The total cost of World War II and the German occupation of Czechoslovakia is estimated at 780 billion Kc., with 242,000 people dying in concentration camps, 90,000 killed as members of the resistance movement in Czechoslovakia, 45,000 still missing and 114,00 war invalids. 600,000 people were deported by Germans and 62,000 compelled to work on fortifications.

Soviet Union / France / Great Britain / United States – June 18, 1947 (LBC)

British Foreign Secretary Bevin and French Minister of Foreign Affairs Bidault invite Soviet Foreign Minister Molotov to work out the European reconstruction plan based on U.S. assistance.

Hungary /US – June 18, 1947 (LBC)

Truman calls the Hungarian “communist coup” outrageous and declares that the U.S. has no intention to stand idly by. He supports a strongly worded note of protest to the Soviet High Command.

Romania – June 18, 1947 (PIR)

The Romanian section of the International Association of Democratic Journalists is constituted in Bucharest.

Poland / Great Britain – June 19, 1947 (KCA)

The Anglo-Polish Financial Agreement is ratified and entered into force.

Poland / Soviet Union – June 19, 1947 (KCA)

The city and port of Stettin (*Szczecin*) is officially given back to the Polish authorities by the Soviet Union.

Eastern Europe / Great Britain – June 19, 1947 (LBC)

Bevin warns the USSR in the House of Commons that the policy of appeasement is over. On Eastern Europe he declares, “We have lived through all these - in Poland, Hungary, Romania and Bulgaria. Why blind our eyes to it?...I am against the one party state... It is developing over a very wide area of Eastern Europe, not by desire but by force...I cannot help feeling...that this kind of thing should be stopped.”

Romania – June 21, 1947 (PIR)

Law No. 205 and 206 for the organization and functioning of the Ministry of National Defense, and the organization of the army are promulgated.

Austria / United States – June 22, 1947 (KCA)

The American headquarters in Vienna announce that the cost of the U.S. occupation in Austria for the Austrian economy amounts to \$4,500,000 per every 3-month-period. From July on, the U.S. forces are to purchase their schilling requirements from the Austrian Government in U.S. dollars, so that there would be no further cost for the occupation for the Austrian Government. This new arrangement will enable Austria to import food, fuel, raw materials and equipment and have a steady dollar income.

Romania / Soviet Union – June 22, 1947 (PIR)

A governmental delegation, led by Gheorghiu-Dej and Traian Săvulescu, leaves for Moscow to negotiate cereal imports, which are needed because of serious droughts (8,000 wagons of cereal from the USSR are obtained).

Hungary – June 23-25, 1947 (HC)

Deputy Prime Minister Mátyás Rákosi, General Secretary of the Hungarian Communist Party, and Mihály Farkas, member of the Political Committee of the party, negotiate with the leaders of the Czechoslovak Communist Party and President Benes in Prague.

Poland / Australia – June 23, 1947 (KCA)

Dr. Stefan Litauer is appointed as Minister to Australia.

Poland / United States – June 24, 1947 (LBC)

The Polish Ambassador in Washington indicates that his country wishes to participate in the Marshall Plan.

Romania / Great Britain / United States – June 24-25, 1947 (PIR)

The governments of the U.K. and the U.S. address two notes of protest to the Romanian Cabinet due to human rights violations in Romania.

Hungary / Yugoslavia – June 24, 1947 (WBA)

An agreement on long-term Hungarian deliveries and Yugoslav counter-deliveries is signed in Budapest.

Romania / Great Britain / United States – June 25, 1947 (LBC)

British protest against Romania for the “drastic deprivations of civil liberties to which the Romanian people are being subjected” and against “the arbitrary arrest...of hundreds of opposition party leaders and non-party persons.” The U.S. presents a similar protest.

Soviet Union / Iceland – June 25, 1947 (KCA)

A new trade agreement between Iceland and the Soviet Union is signed.

Hungary – June 26, 1947 (KCA)

The Hungarian National Assembly decides to deprive Béla Varga of his citizenship.

Romania / Yugoslavia – June 26, 1947 (PIR)

Romania and Yugoslavia conclude a cultural convention.

Soviet Union – June 26, 1947 (KCA)

In the Soviet Union an industrial call-up with tens of thousands of youths takes place, with the aim of obtaining 4,500,000 fully trained industrial workers by 1950 which is laid down in the first post-war Five-Year Plan.

Soviet Union / Great Britain / France / United States – June 27-July 2, 1947 (PLC)

A meeting of the foreign ministers of the four great powers about the Marshall plan takes place Paris.

Yugoslavia / Greece / United Nations – June 27, 1947 (LUY)

The final report of the Commission of Investigation Concerning the Greek Frontier Incidents is proposed to the Security Council. The Security Council debates the issue until August 12, 1947.

Yugoslavia / Denmark – June 28, 1947 (OEH)

Yugoslavia signs an economic and payment agreement with Denmark.

Romania – June 30-July 2, 1947 (PIR)

The first national conference of the Union of Antifascist Women of Romania takes place.

July 1947

Bulgaria – July 1947 (KCA)

Bulgaria refuses to attend the European Economic Conference on Marshall Aid because of possible implications of the “division of Europe into two hostile camps”.

Hungary / Austria – July 1947 (KCA)

In Vienna it is announced that there have been many refugees escaping Hungary following the political crisis. The resignation of Hungarian ministers abroad continue.

Yugoslavia – July 1947 (RSB)

The trial against Čvrtomir Nagode begins in Ljubljana. The accused is considered to be the leader of the ‘bourgeois’ opposition.

Yugoslavia / United States – July 1947 (LKT)

The new U.S. Ambassador to Yugoslavia, Cavendish Cannon, a veteran Balkan expert, arrives in Belgrade.

Hungary – July 1, 1947 (HC)

The National Assembly approves a law regarding a Three-Year Plan.

Romania – July 1, 1947 (PIR)

Six-month production programs are introduced in the main enterprises and industrial branches.

Poland – July 2, 1947 (PSN)

The Diet adopts the “Plan of Economic Reconstruction for the Years 1947-1949”. The goals of the plan are to “raise the quality of life for the working strata of the population above the pre-war level,” to integrate “the regained territories with the rest of the country” and to create spaces for private cooperatives.

Soviet Union / France / United States – July 2, 1947 (LBC)

The USSR turns down the Marshall Plan. In a speech French Foreign Minister Bidault states: “I should like to warn the Soviet delegation against any action which might result in dividing Europe into two groups.”

Romania – July 3-5, 1947 (PIR)

The general conference of ARLUS takes place in Bucharest.

Hungary – July 4, 1947 (HC)

The National Assembly elects Árpád Szabó (FKGP) as its chairman in the place of Béla Varga.

Czechoslovakia – July 4, 1947 (PLC)

The Czechoslovak Government unanimously agrees to attend the Marshall Plan conference in Paris.

Romania – July 4, 1947 (PIR)

The British and French governments invite Romania to participate in a conference on the application of the Marshall Plan for the reconstruction of Europe.

Austria / United Nations – July 7, 1947 (KCA)

Austria applies for U.N. membership.

Soviet Union / Bulgaria / Czechoslovakia / Finland / Hungary / Poland / Romania – July 7, 1947 (PLC)

The Soviet Union informs all countries in its sphere of influence (including Finland), that they cannot accept the Marshall Plan. This move shows a radical change in Soviet foreign policy.

Poland – July 9, 1947 (PLC/KCA)

Under Soviet pressure, Poland refuses to attend the Marshall Plan conference in Paris. Poland claims to oppose the benefits of the program to Germany and expresses the fear that accepting the aid might have negative implications for the economic independence and the sovereignty of the recipients.

Romania / United Nations – July 9, 1947 (KCA)

The Romanian Government decides to apply for membership in the U.N.

Romania – July 9, 1947 (PIR/KCA)

The Romanian government rejects the invitation by the French and British government to participate in the conference on the Marshall Plan. Romania states that accepting the aid would lead to interference in internal affairs.

Yugoslavia – July 9, 1947, (OEH/KCA)

Yugoslavia refuses to attend the European Economic Conference on Marshall Aid,

declaring that the Marshall Plan would be an attempt to interfere in the economic affairs of other countries and to secure new markets for the U.S.

Czechoslovakia – July 10, 1947 (KCA)

Czechoslovakia announces its refusal to attend the European Economic Conference on Marshall Aid, as this could be interpreted as an act against the Soviet Union. The announcement was a direct result of Stalin's harsh warnings to a Czechoslovak government delegation hastily invited to Moscow for "consultation."

Hungary – July 10, 1947 (HC)

The Council of Ministers decides that Hungary will not participate in the Paris conference on the Marshall Plan.

Finland – July 11, 1947 (PLC/KCA)

Finland refuses to attend the European Economic conference on Marshall Aid on grounds that the Marshall plan has been a "serious cause of disagreement between the Great Powers" and that Finland "wants to remain outside international conflicts".

Hungary / Finland – July 11, 1947 (HC)

Hungary and Finland sign an economic agreement.

Romania – July 11, 1947 (PIR)

Gheorghe Tătărescu requests Romania's admission to the U.N. from Trygve Lie, General Secretary of the U.N.

Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – July 12, 1947 (KCA)

The Soviet Union and Czechoslovakia sign a trade agreement.

Romania / Great Britain / United States – July 12, 1947 (KCA)

The British and American notes condemning the political conditions in the country are rejected by the Romanian Government on the grounds that they constitute interference in the country's internal affairs.

Soviet Union – July 12-September 22, 1947 (PLC)

16 Western European countries (including Austria and the French, British and American occupational zones of Germany) meet in Paris to agree on the terms of the Marshall Plan. Under Soviet pressure, Albania, Bulgaria, Finland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Poland, Romania and Yugoslavia do not attend the conference. Spain later joins the Marshall Plan.

Bulgaria / Soviet Union – July 13, 1947 (KCA)

The Bulgarian Vice-Premier announces that a Soviet-Bulgarian trade agreement has been signed.

Romania / Bulgaria – July 13-16, 1947 (PIR)

Groza pays an official visit to Bulgaria and meets with Bulgarian Prime Minister Georgi Dimitrov.

Hungary / Soviet Union – July 15, 1947 (KCA)

A Soviet-Hungarian Trade agreement is signed in Moscow.

Romania – July 15, 1947 (HC/KCA)

New arrests of approximately 100 members of the opposition take place in Bucharest and in the provinces.

Romania – July 15, 1947 (PIR)

The Commission for Economic Rectification and Monetary Stabilization is instituted. New economic legislation is adopted, focused on the control of credit utilization, the organization of state economic control, and the circulation of agricultural products.

Hungary – July 16, 1947 (PLC)

The Hungarian parliament ratifies the Peace Treaty of Paris.

Poland / France – July 16, 1947 (LBC)

A four-year French-Polish economic treaty is signed in Paris, allowing French companies to construct Poland's waterpower system.

Romania – July 17, 1947 (PIR)

Under the accusation of being "involved in an action of overthrowing the existing regime in Romania," Parliament decides to lift the parliamentary immunity of six PNTȚ deputies: Iuliu Maniu (leader of the Peasant Party), Aurel Leucuția, Emil Ghilezan, Vasile Serdici, Ilie Lazăr and Gr. Niculescu-Buzești, all of whom are arrested.

Hungary – July 20, 1947 (HC)

István Balogh, the former Chairman of the FKGP, announces the establishment of the Independent Hungarian Democratic Party.

Hungary – July 22, 1947 (HC)

In the National Assembly, Vince Nagy announces that the "Szabadságpárt" (Freedom Party) is disbanded. Its leader, Dezső Sulyok, resigns from his parliamentary seat (and goes into exile on August 14).

Hungary – July 22, 1947 (REV)

Margit Schlachta applies to the Interior Ministry for a permit to form a party named the Christian Women's Camp.

Soviet Union / Great Britain – July 22, 1947 (KCA)

Trade negotiations between the Soviet Union and the U.K. break down over the terms of repayment of the 1941 credit.

Hungary – July 23, 1947 (HC)

The National Assembly passes a law on the right to vote.

Poland / United States – July 23, 1947 (HDP)

The U.S. ends WWII aid to Poland.

Hungary / Yugoslavia – July 24, 1947 (REV)

A five-year Hungarian-Yugoslav economic and cooperation treaty is signed.

Hungary – July 25, 1947 (REV)

President Zoltán Tildy dissolves Parliament and calls for elections on August 31.

Soviet Union / Yugoslavia – July 25, 1947 (KCA)

A Soviet-Yugoslav Trade Agreement is signed.

Bulgaria / United Nations – July 26, 1947 (KCA)

A Bulgarian application for membership of the U.N. is received by the U.N. Secretary-General Trygve Lie.

Hungary / Poland / United States – July 26, 1947 (LBC)

U.S. Congress excludes Poland and Hungary from the Marshall Plan. Previously both had turned down the invitation.

Hungary – July 28 1947 (REV)

The Hungarian Independence Party is formed with Zoltán Pfeiffer as president.

Yugoslavia – July 28, 1947 (CRM)

The District Court of the City of Zagreb sentences four priests from the Franciscan Monastery in Zagreb to death. On August 13, 1947 the Supreme Court of Croatia confirms the first-instance judgment, and all four are executed.

Hungary – July 29, 1947 (REV)

An Electoral Alliance of the Hungarian National Independence Front is formed by the coalition parties.

Romania – July 29, 1947 (KCA)

The Romanian Government dissolves the strongest opposition party, the National Peasant Party. The Peasant Party is accused of plotting to overthrow the Government.

Bulgaria / Hungary / Romania / Soviet Union / Great Britain / United States – July 30, 1947 (LBC)

The U.S. publishes its protest against the USSR taking former Axis property from Bulgaria, Hungary and Romania before the signing of the peace treaty. On the previous day Britain protested against the same issue.

Hungary – July 30, 1947 (HC)

The Economic High Council discusses the collective contracts and the salaries of public servants.

Austria / United States – July 31, 1947 (KCA)

The U.S. Export-Import Bank announces the granting of credits to Austria, totaling \$13 million to enable them to finance urgently needed materials and equipment.

August 1947

Poland / Czechoslovakia - August 1947 (OSA)

A large economic agreement between Poland and Czechoslovakia is signed. It regards the exchange of goods, communications, productions, science, culture, and information. The agreement also includes a new investment pact. For five years, Poland will receive from Czechoslovakia the materials necessary for these investments.

Hungary – August 1947 (KCA)

The Hungarian Council of People's Court confirms the findings of the Budapest People's Court in the first trial against the leaders of the anti-republican plot, but commutes two death sentences into that of penal servitude.

Yugoslavia / Greece – August 1947 (SGY)

Yugoslavia recalls its minister from Athens.

Bulgaria / Yugoslavia / Soviet Union – August 1, 1947 (PLC)

A Bulgarian-Yugoslav agreement is signed by Tito and Dimitrov at their meeting in Bled. The agreement addresses the questions of a possible Balkan confederation. According to the envisioned plan Bulgaria would give Pirini-Macedonia to Yugoslavia in exchange for the Caribrod and Bosilgrad territories taken away in 1919. Stalin raises objections against this meeting in a secret letter.

Hungary – August 1, 1947 (HC)

The execution of the Three-Year Plan begins. The Lajos Kossuth Military Academy opens.

Bulgaria / Yugoslavia – August 2, 1947 (KCA)

The Yugoslav and Bulgarian governments announce an extensive pact providing for mutual assistance and full economic, political and cultural cooperation.

Romania – August 3-4, 1947 (PIR)

The conference of the presidents and secretaries of district organizations of the Plowmen's Front takes place in Bucharest. The gathering analyzes the progress of the reorganization based on the April 1947 communiqué of the Executive Committee of the Front to transform it to an organization of the the "working peasantry."

Poland / Soviet Union – August 4, 1947 (KCA)

A Soviet-Polish trade agreement is signed.

Bulgaria – August 6, 1947 (REV)

The trial of Nikola Petkov and his associates begins in Bulgaria. He is found guilty and hanged on August 16.

Poland – August 6, 1947 (PSN)

Zygmunt Augustynski, editor of the Peasant Party's daily *Gazeta Ludowa*, is sentenced to fifteen years imprisonment. At the same trial Father Leon Pawlina is sentenced to ten years in prison and Ensign Zygmunt Maciejec, from the security service, is given the death sentence.

Romania – August 7, 1947 (PIR)

The law for the abolition and ban of fascist, pro-fascist or terrorist, military and paramilitary organizations is adopted. The law for the investigation and penalization of those guilty of war crimes or crimes against peace and humanity is also adopted.

Soviet Union – August 8, 197 (KCA)

General Anton Denikin, Commander of the Belorussian Army in the post-revolutionary campaign against the Bolsheviks, dies in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Hungary / Great Britain – August 9, 1947 (KCA)

A British-Hungarian trade agreement on food imports is signed in London.

Czechoslovakia / Great Britain – August 10, 1947 (LBC)

Czechoslovakia receives 100 fighter planes from the U.K.

Hungary / Great Britain – August 11, 1947 (KCA)

A British Note to the Hungarian Government protests the privileges granted to Soviet-Hungarian companies.

Yugoslavia / West Germany – August 11, 1947 (OEH)

Yugoslavia signs a payment agreement and a protocol on economic cooperation with the West German Economic Area.

Hungary – August 14, 1947 (HC)

Dezső Sulyok, the ex-chairman of the “Szabadságpárt” (Freedom Party), emigrates from Hungary.

Romania – August 15, 1947 (KCA)

Facing increasing inflation, the Romanian Government decides to devalue the lei. The Romanian Parliament passes emergency laws for the immediate confiscation of all gold, foreign currencies and foreign exchange balances held by Romanians and foreign residents in Romania.

Bulgaria / Great Britain / US – August 16, 1947 (KCA)

Nikola Petkov, leader of the opposition Agrarian Party, is sentenced to death by hanging for conspiring to overthrow the Fatherland Front Government. Foreign press correspondents are allowed to follow the trial. The British and U.S. governments ask the Soviet Deputy Chairman of the Allied Control Commission to suspend the sentence pending a review of the case by the ACC.

Hungary – August 19, 1947 (HC)

The Social-Democratic Party holds its first party festival on Heroes’ Square.

Eastern Europe / United Nations – August 21, 1947 (HC)

The UN Security Council starts to discuss the application of the countries defeated in World War II to join the UN. (Eventually each application is rejected.)

Bulgaria – August 22, 1947 (KCA)

Lt. Gen. Charepanov, the Soviet Deputy Chairman of the ACC, states that the Commission cannot interfere in the verdict of the Bulgarian court in any way: “it is purely an internal Bulgarian matter”.

Romania – August 23, 1947 (KCA)

The Romanian National Assembly ratifies the Paris Peace Treaty.

Romania – August 24, 1947 (PIR)

The new railway line Bucharest-Roşiori-Caracal-Craiova is inaugurated.

Bulgaria – August 25, 1947 (KCA)

The Bulgarian National Assembly ratifies the Peace Treaty.

Yugoslavia / Bulgaria – August 25, 1947 (WBA)

Agreement on the utilization of properties cut by the Yugoslav-Bulgarian frontier line is signed in Sofia.

Bulgaria – August 26, 1947 (KCA)

The Bulgarian National Assembly dissolves the Nikola Petkov’s Agrarian Party on the grounds that it had become “a centre for Fascist forces seeking revenge”.

Soviet Union – August 26, 1947 (PLC)

The Presidium of the Supreme Soviet ratifies the Italian, Bulgarian, Hungarian and Finnish peace treaties.

Yugoslavia / Bulgaria – August 27, 1947 (WBA)

Agreement on facilitating the crossing of the frontier between Yugoslavia and Bulgaria for citizens of both countries, and on citizenship is signed in Sofia.

Hungary – August 29, 1947 (REV)

At their trial, Endre Mistéth and his associates receive sentences for their involvement in the alleged Hungarian Community conspiracy. Mistéth receives three and a half years of hard labor, Pál Jaczkó four years of hard labor, László Gyulai four years of penal servitude, János Horváth three and a half years of hard labor, Sándor Kiss two and a half years of penal servitude, István Csicsery-Rónay two years of penal servitude, and László Vatai six months of penal servitude. However, Tibor Hám is acquitted. After appealing, Mistéth's sentence is changed to six years of penal servitude, Jaczkó's to five years of imprisonment, Gyulai's to five years' imprisonment, Horváth's to three years' penal servitude, Kiss' to three years of prison, Csicsery-Rónay's to three years in prison, and Vatai's to six months imprisonment.

Hungary – August 31, 1947 (HC)

General elections are held. The division of the elected representatives is as follows:

Hungarian Communist Party: 100

FKGP: 68

Social-Democratic Party: 67

National Peasant Party: 36

Christian Women Camp: 4

Democratic People's Party: 60

Hungarian Independent Party: 49

Hungarian Radical Party: 6

Independent Hungarian Democratic Party: 18

Civil Democratic Party: 3

Hungary / United States – August 31, 1947 (LBC)

The U.S. criticizes Hungary for manipulating the August 31 national elections to help the Communists win.

Hungary – August 31, 1947 (REV)

Budgetary funds of Ft. 372.5 million are spent on supplies for the Red Army during the fiscal years of 1946–7. This represents more than 10% of Hungary's public spending.

September 1947

Hungary – September 1, 1947 (HC)

Leaders of the Social-Democratic Party suspect election fraud and question the legitimacy of the voting. The Social-Democratic ministers protest and refuse to take on work.

Romania / Czechoslovakia – September 3-5, 1947 (PIR)

A Romanian Governmental Delegation headed by Petru Groza and Gh. Tătărescu pays an official visit to Czechoslovakia. A commercial and cultural accord is signed on the occasion.

Germany – September 5, 1947 (KCA)

It is announced that Dr. Rudolf Paul, the Prime Minister of Thuringia (Soviet Zone), has disappeared with his wife.

Hungary – September 5, 1947 (HC)

A discussion between the leadership of the Hungarian Communist Party and the National Peasant Party takes place. The Peasant Party aims for re-establishing the December 2, 1944 government coalition.

Hungary – September 6, 1947 (HC)

A large crowd protests on Heroes' Square. They demand the immediate solution to the government crisis.

Hungary – September 8, 1947 (HC)

The Electoral Assembly of the Social-Democratic Party takes place. Some members suggest leaving the coalition, but the assembly disapproves this option.

Poland / United States – September 8, 1947 (LBC)

U.S. representative Christian Herter announces in Warsaw that the U.S. is interested in Poland's rehabilitation, despite its aid being revoked.

Czechoslovakia / United States – September 9, 1947 (LBC)

The U.S. announces the conclusion of an economic agreement with Czechoslovakia in which it will deliver industrial equipment to Prague.

Poland / Romania – September 9, 1947 (PIR)

Romania and Poland conclude an economic convention.

Hungary – September 11, 1947 (HC)

The Assembly of the Central Leadership of the Communist Party takes place in Budapest. The party demands a representation in the government, proportional to the party's increased popularity.

Hungary – September 11-13, 1947 (HC)

The great assembly of the FKGP takes place in Budapest. The right wing unsuccessfully attempts to take over the leadership of the party. The assembly

decides to continue to participate in the coalition government and clarifies the conditions of its cooperation.

Romania – September 11-12, 1947 (PIR)

A session of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of PCR takes place. It discusses the situation of prices after the stabilization, the relationship between prices and salaries, industrial production as well as the circulation of goods.

Hungary – September 12, 1947 (HC)

The convention of the leaders of the Communist Party and the Social-Democratic Party takes place in Budapest. An agreement is formed on the issues concerning cooperation between the two parties, and on governmental matters.

Yugoslavia / United States September 12, 1947 (KCA)

A U.S. note is delivered to the Yugoslav Government, demanding the release of two American and seven British soldiers arrested by the Yugoslav authorities in the previous weeks. The note charges the Yugoslav Government with “unwarranted detention and maltreatment” of Allied military personnel.

Poland / Vatican – September 14, 1947 (HDP)

The government denounces the 1925 Concordat with the Vatican.

Czechoslovakia – September 15, 1947 (KCA)

It is officially announced that the Czechoslovak police have discovered an anti-republican plot to overthrow the government, and that 80 people were arrested on September 13, 1947 for their involvement.

Bulgaria / Finland / Hungary / Romania – September 15, 1947 (PLC)

After the ratifications, the Paris peace treaties are put into force. The Allied Control Commissions are abolished in Bulgaria, Finland, Hungary and Romania.

Yugoslavia / Italy – September 15, 1947 (RSB)

Peace Treaty between Italy and Yugoslavia is enforced; the Slovene coastland is annexed to Yugoslavia and the Free Territory of Trieste is established.

Hungary – September 16, 1947 (HC/REV)

The first session of the new National Assembly takes place. Imre Nagy (Communist Party) is elected as Speaker.

Romania / Great Britain – September 17, 1947 (PIR)

The governments of Romania and the U.K. decide upon the transformation of their political representations into legations.

Bulgaria – September 18, 1947 (KCA)

The Bulgarian Supreme Court rejects Nikola Petkov’s appeal.

Hungary – September 18, 1947 (HC)

The convention of the four parties of the Hungarian National Independence Front supports the coalition government.

Soviet Union / Greece / Turkey / United States / United Nations – September 18, 1947 (CWC)

Soviet Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Vishinsky accuses the U.S., Greece and Turkey of engaging in “criminal propaganda for a new war” during the U.N. General Assembly debate on a Soviet resolution against “warmongering”. He attacks the Marshall Plan and the Truman Doctrine. He also accuses the U.S. of engaging in an arms race and using West Germany to expand American power in Europe. Finally, he rejects American accusations that Soviet allies are assisting communists in Greece and Turkey.

Finland / United Nations – September 19, 1947 (KCA)

Finland formally applies for membership to the U.N.

East Germany – September 20-24, 1947 (PLC)

At the second congress of the SED in Berlin it is decided that the East German communist party will be reorganized.

Yugoslavia / Albania – September 20, 1947 (WBA)

An agreement on the abolition of visas between Yugoslavia and Albania is signed in Tirana.

Bulgaria / Czechoslovakia / Hungary / Poland / Romania / Soviet Union / Yugoslavia – September 22-28, 1947 (PLC/MMS)

In Szklarska Poreba, Poland the Cominform (Information Bureau of the Communist and Workers' Parties) is formed at the secret conference of the communist parties of nine European countries; Soviet Union, Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Hungary, Romania, Bulgaria, Italy and France. The parties from Greece, Germany, Albania and Finland are not represented. The bipolar world order (two camps doctrine) is declared by Andrej Zhdanov, head of the Soviet delegation. The Cominform is officially founded in order to coordinate responses to the Marshall Plan.

Bulgaria – September 23, 1947 (KCA)

Nikola Petkov is executed in Sofia's Central Prison.

West Germany – September 23, 1947 (KCA)

German Press reports the arrival of Dr. Rudolf Paul the Prime Minister of Thuringia (Soviet Zone), and his wife to the American zone of Germany, also claiming that the disappearance was faked for political reasons.

Bulgaria / Great Britain / United States – September 24, 1947 (KCA)

The U.S. and the U.K. denounce the execution of Nikola Petkov, the British Minister in Sofia condemning it as a “judicial murder”.

Hungary – September 24, 1947 (HC)

The President names Lajos Dinnyés as Prime Minister again. The deputies: Mátyás Rákosi (MKP), Árpád Szakasits (SZDP). Ministers: Interior: László Rajk (MKP), Construction and Public Labour: József Darvas (NPP), Agriculture: Árpád Szabó (FKGP), Defence: Péter Veres (NPP), Justice: Ries Ferenc (SZDP), Traffic: Ernő Gerő (MKP), Foreign Affairs: Erik Molnár (MKP), Finances: Mikós Nyárádi (FKGP), Religion and Education: Gyula Ortutay (FKGP).

Romania – September 24, 1947 (PIR)

The PCR and PSD leaderships discuss the reconstruction of the organizational unity through the Unitary Labor Front, in the context of the action of the internal and external “reaction”.

Bulgaria – September 25, 1947 (KCA)

It is announced that 18 members of Bulgarian opposition parties have been arrested for helping “diversionists” enter the country from Greece.

Hungary – September 25, 1947 (HC)

The first Russian-language library opens in Budapest. It is called the Gorky Library.

Yugoslavia /Great Britain / US – September 26, 1947 (KCA)

It is announced in Belgrade that the British and American citizens being the subject of the recent American protest are released.

Albania – September 28, 1947 (KCA)

Sixteen Albanians are sentenced to death for allegedly having worked with foreign agents to overthrow the government.

Romania – September 28, 1947 (PIR)

The activity of the Allied Control Commission in Romania comes to an end.

Hungary – September 29, 1947 (REV)

Parliament passes legislation on the nationalization of the banks.

Yugoslavia / Cominform – September 30, 1947 (OEH)

The Information Bureau of the Communist and Workers' Parties establishes itself with its headquarters based in Belgrade.

October 1947

Yugoslavia – October 1947 (PVC)

Seven alleged agents of IMRO are found guilty of spying. Two of them are shot and the other five are sentenced to twelve years' forced labor.

Bulgaria / United States – October 1, 1947 (KCA)

The U.S. resumes full diplomatic relations with Bulgaria.

Hungary / United States / United Nations October 1, 1947 (HC)

The UN Security Council rejects Hungary's application for U.N. membership.

Romania – October 1, 1947 (KCA)

It is announced that the Romanian Communist and Social-Democratic parties have decided to fuse into one party under the name of "United Workers Party". Their intention is to bring about political and ideological unity.

Romania – October 1, 1947 (PIR)

The UN Security Council rejects Romania's application to the U.N.

Hungary – October 3, 1947 (HC)

The Communist and Peasant Party representatives file a petition for the abolition of the mandates of the Pfeiffer-party.

Bulgaria / Czechoslovakia / Hungary / Poland / Soviet Union / Yugoslavia / France / Italy – October 5, 1947 (KCA/CWC)

It is simultaneously announced in Moscow, Belgrade, Warsaw, Prague and Paris that the Communist parties of nine European states, (The Soviet Union, Bulgaria, France, Hungary, Italy, Poland, Romania and Yugoslavia) had a secret meeting in Warsaw during September and decided to set up a Communist Information Bureau, Cominform. According to the published manifesto its announced purpose is to "coordinate the activities of the Communists on the basis of mutual agreement". In the document, it is stated that "as a result of the Second World War and the post-war period, substantial changes have occurred in the international situation", and that the policies of Britain and the U.S. are "aimed at strengthening imperialism and strangling democracy".

The manifesto accuses the U.S. and Great Britain of fighting Nazi Germany and Imperial Japan only to eliminate them as economic rivals. It accuses Western powers of imperialism, opposition to democracy and preparing for another war. The manifesto also denounces non-Bolshevik leftists such as socialists, leading to the arrest of many non-communist leftists in Eastern Europe.

The document calls for the "anti-imperialist democratic camp to unite" and "work out a coordinated program of action".

The *New York Times* declares that the Communist move constitutes "a clear declaration of political war".

West Germany / France – October 5, 1947 (PLC)

The Saar region starts an economic union with France.

Romania – October 5, 1947 (PIR)

The ministerial commission for economic rectification decides to make a national inventory of industrial, commercial and transportation enterprises.

Romania – October 5-9, 1947 (PIR)

The 18th general congress of the PSD takes place in Bucharest.

Hungary – October 7, 1947 (HC)

Prime Minister Lajos Dinnyés announces the program of the Government in the National Assembly. Its main objectives: the cooperation of the democratic parties, the nationalization of the banks, the realization of the Three-Year Plan and the elevation of living standards.

Bulgaria – October 8, 1947 (KCA)

The trial of 39 army officers charged with plotting to overthrow the present regime, begins. The chief defendant is General Cyril Stanchev. General Stanchev, the head of the underground military resistance movement during the war and German occupation, is claimed to have been directly in contact with Petkov. All of the defendants plead guilty and appeal for mercy, alleging that they joined the organization having understood General Damian Veltchev, War Minister in the Fatherland Front Government (1944-46), to be the leader.

Romania / Austria – October 8, 1947 (PIR)

Romania and Austria establish diplomatic relations at the level of political representation.

Albania / Italy – October 9, 1947 (PLC)

Albania ratifies the Italian peace treaty.

Romania – October 10, 1947 (PIR)

The work of the 17th Congress of the General Association of Engineers in Romania (AGIR) ends.

Romania / Argentina – October 10, 1947 (PIR)

Romania signs an economic accord with Argentina.

Austria / France / Great Britain / Soviet Union / US – October 11, 1947 (KCA)

The Quadripartite Commission examining the Austrian peace treaty fails to reach an agreement on previously submitted disputed articles. In Moscow, the main point of disagreement is the definition and disposal of German assets in Austria. Other disagreements concerns questions and clauses of refugees and displaced persons. The failure to reach an agreement leads to deep disappointment.

Poland / Germany – October 12, 1947 (KCA)

It is announced from Warsaw that the deportation of Germans from Poland will be completed by November.

Austria / Soviet Union – October 13, 1947 (KCA)

It is announced in Vienna that in the Soviet Zone the Soviet authorities have dismissed the Austrian police chiefs on the grounds that they are ‘Fascists’ and had not carried out Soviet orders. They are replaced by Communists. Furthermore, the Austrian Government announces that it will take all the necessary measures to safeguard its sovereign rights as recognized by the Allied agreement. Later the Austrian *Nationalrat* requests the Government to approach the Allied Control Council to help obtain and restore Austrian sovereignty.

Hungary / Yugoslavia – October 13, 1947 (HC)

Led by Prime Minister Lajos Dinnyés, a government delegation travels to Yugoslavia for an official visit.

Soviet Union / Armenia – October 13, 1947 (KCA)

The Soviet-Armenian Commission announces that during 1947, 60 000 Armenians had been repatriated from different countries.

Hungary / Czechoslovakia – October 15, 1947 (KCA)

The villages of Oroszvár, Horvátjárfalu and Dunacsún, ceded to Czechoslovakia under the peace treaty, are formally transferred to the Czechoslovak authorities.

Hungary / Yugoslavia – October 15, 1947 (KCA)

A five-year cultural agreement between Hungary and Yugoslavia is signed in Belgrade. The following day it is announced that further development of “economic, cultural and other relations on the basis on friendship and cooperation” is necessary.

Hungary – October 15, 1947 (HC)

A group from the Social-Democratic Party gives a memorandum to the party leadership. It suggests that the party announce its dissolution.

Romania – October 15-24, 1947 (PIR)

Industrial, commercial and credit enterprises are inventoried.

Czechoslovakia – October 16, 1947 (KCA)

The Czechoslovak National Assembly decides to lift the Parliamentary immunity of two deputies belonging to the Slovak Democratic Party, Dr. Bugar and Dr. Kempny, alleged to be involved in the plot. Both strongly deny the accusations. The Slovak Democratic Party is accused of siding with the capitalists.

Romania – October 18, 1947 (PIR)

The 2nd national Congress of the Union of the Syndicates of writers, artists and journalists takes place in Bucharest.

Bulgaria – October 21, 1947 (KCA)

General Stanchev is found guilty and sentenced to life imprisonment. All other defendants are found guilty as well, with sentences ranging between 1 and 15 years.

Poland – October 21, 1947 (PSN)

Mikolajczyk secretly leaves Poland in the wake of increasing persecution of Peasant Party members.

Soviet Union / United States – October 21, 1947 (CWC)

The Soviet Union and the U.S. spar over a U.N. General Assembly resolution to help resolve the conflicts between Greece and its three communist neighbors, Albania, Bulgaria and Yugoslavia. The resolution is passed despite Soviet resistance.

Soviet Union – October 22, 1947 (CWC)

Andrei Zhdanov's "two camps speech" at the Cominform founding meeting is published by *Pravda*. The speech states that the world is divided into two camps, the imperialist and the anti-imperialist and that no state can be neutral. He calls for European states to reject the Marshall Plan, which he claims would turn Europe into the forty-ninth American state. Vishinski attacks American officials for warmongering at the U.N. General Assembly.

Yugoslavia – October 22, 1947 (ACY)

The first Organizing Committee of the Slovenian Catholic priests is established by priests from Primorska.

Bulgaria – October 24, 1947 (KCA)

Veltchev announces his resignation from the post of Bulgarian Minister in Bern, protesting the accusations made against him in the recent political trial.

Soviet Union – October 24, 1947 (KCA)

It is announced that Alexander Panyushkin will be the new Soviet Ambassador to Washington.

Romania – October 25-November 13, 1947 (PIR)

At the Military Tribunal of the 2nd Military Region Bucharest, the trial of the PNT leaders, most notably Iuliu Maniu and Ion Mihalache (condemned to life imprisonment), takes place.

Poland – October 26, 1947 (KCA)

A statement is issued by the Polish News Agency, announcing that Mikołajczyk,

leader of the Polish Peasant Party, along with seven other people, has fled the country.

Yugoslavia / Great Britain – October 28, 1947 (KCA)

It is announced in London and Belgrade that under an agreement signed on September 8, 1947, Britain will hand over every Yugoslav national in the British occupation zones to the Yugoslav authorities.

Austria / Italy – October 29, 1947 (KCA)

Diplomatic relations between Italy and Austria are resumed.

Poland – October 29, 1947 (KCA)

After a recent pastoral letter criticizing the Government, Polish Prime Minister Cyrankiewicz warns the Roman Catholic bishops that the Government would not tolerate the use of religious freedom for political purposes by the Catholic Church.

Hungary / Soviet Union – October 30, 1947 (HC)

The 100,000th Hungarian prisoner of war arrives in the country from the Soviet Union.

November 1947

Czechoslovakia – November 1, 1947 (KCA)

It is announced that due to bad harvest, all extra food rations for physical workers, high officials and foreign correspondents will be reduced by half.

Hungary – November 1-2, 1947 (HC)

The fourth assembly of the national electoral committee of the National Peasant Party takes place in Budapest. It supports and enables the cooperation of the coalition parties and the foreign policy of the Government. Furthermore, it strengthens the leadership elected on May 4.

Poland / Great Britain – November 2, 1947 (KCA)

It is announced that an Anglo-Polish agreement has been signed regarding the principles of compensation for British property in Poland affected by the Polish nationalization law.

Poland / Germany / Great Britain – November 3, 1947 (KCA)

Mayhew, the British Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs announces that Mikołajczyk has arrived in the British zone of Germany. In a press statement on the same day Mikołajczyk clarifies the reasons for his escape, claiming he learned that his parliamentary immunity would be revoked in order to sentence him and others to death.

Romania – November 3, 1947 (PIR)

The Parliament's Commission for External Affairs adopts a vote of no confidence against Minister of External Affairs Gheorghe Tătărescu.

Soviet Union – November 3, 1947 (KCA)

General Nikolai Bulganin is promoted to the rank of Marshal of the Soviet Union.

Hungary – November 4, 1947 (HC)

Zoltán Pfeffer leaves the country. His party, the Hungarian Independence Party, is dissolved. The 48 representatives of the party lose their mandates.

Poland – November 4, 1947 (KCA)

Mikołajczyk announces that he is determined to continue fighting for Polish democracy and freedom, but that this struggle unfortunately cannot be done from Poland. He also expresses his views that political terror has decreased the working efficiency of the people.

Austria / France / Germany / Great Britain / United States – November 4, 1947 (KCA)

A protocol is signed in London by British, American, French and Austrian representatives giving Austria a share in the monetary gold looted by Germans and recovered by the Allies.

Hungary – November 6, 1947 (HC)

Hungary is admitted to UNESCO.

Romania – November 6, 1947 (PLC)

The last oppositional politician, Tatarescu, is removed from the Romanian government.

Soviet Union – November 6, 1947 (KCA)

Molotov gives a speech marking the 30th anniversary of the Russian Revolution in which he emphasizes the division between the Great Powers and criticizes the “so-called ‘Western’ freedom” and American imperialism. Furthermore, he calls for all the anti-imperialist countries of the world to unite.

Romania / Portugal – November 7, 1947 (PIR)

Romania breaks diplomatic relations with Portugal.

Romania – November 7, 1947 (PIR)

The Groza government is reorganized after the removal of the PNL-Tătărescu ministers. The new members are: Ana Pauker, Minister of External Affairs; Vasile Luca, Minister of Finances; Theodor Iordăchescu, Minister of Public Works; Stancu Stoian, Minister of Cults.

Hungary / Soviet Union – November 8, 1947 (REV)

Stalin is awarded honorary citizen of Budapest.

Soviet Union / United States – November 8, 1947 (LBC)

The Harriman report states that, “The U.S. has vital interest – humanitarian, economic strategic and political – in helping” Western Europe recover while resisting communism, even at high costs.

Austria / Germany / Soviet Union / Great Britain – November 9-December 15, 1947 (PLC)

At the seventh meeting of the Council of Foreign Ministers in London no agreement is reached regarding the peace treaties of Austria and Germany.

Romania – November 10-11, 1947 (PIR)

The national conference of UFAR adopts a platform-project for the unification of all feminist organizations into the Union of Democratic Women in Romania.

Romania – November 11, 1947 (PLC)

Maniu, arrested in July, is sentenced to life imprisonment.

Hungary / Yugoslavia – November 12, 1947 (REV)

The Hungarian-Yugoslav Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance is signed in Belgrade.

Poland / France – November 12, 1947 (KCA)

A Franco-Polish property compensation agreement is signed.

Poland / Sweden – November 12, 1947 (KCA)

Korbonski, member of the Peasant Party and a strong supporter of Mikołajczyk, makes an announcement after his recent flight to Stockholm, stating that he had received information of plans to put him on trial in Poland for “collaboration with foreign powers” and to execute him. Consequently he “fled for his life”.

Romania / Great Britain – November 12, 1947 (PIR)

King Mihai I and his mother, Queen Elena, leave for London to assist in the marriage of Princess Elisabeth of Britain.

Romania / France – November 14-15, 1947 (PIR)

In Paris, the first congress of the Romanian Diaspora takes place with the support of the regime in Romania; 63 delegates from Switzerland, Belgium, England, Italy and France participate.

Soviet Union / France – November 14, 1947 (KCA)

French police raid a Soviet repatriation camp near Paris.

Austria / United States – November 15, 1947 (KCA)

Lt.-Gen. Keyes, High Commissioner for the U.S. in Austria, announces that with the help of food supplies from the American Army, the Austrian Government will increase the basic food rations with immediate effect.

Poland – November 15, 1947 (KCA)

The *Sejm* considers the report of a special Parliamentary Commission appointed to investigate the flight of Mikołajczyk and other Peasant Party leaders. The parliamentary immunity of Mikołajczyk is withdrawn, he is proclaimed guilty of treason to the Polish State and nation and banished for life.

Hungary – November 16, 1947 (HC)

The reconstructed “Margit-híd” (Margaret Bridge) is opened in Budapest.

Romania – November 17, 1947 (KCA)

It is reported that 165 members of the Romanian diplomatic service have been dismissed and recalled.

Soviet Union / France – November 17, 1947 (KCA)

The Soviet Ambassador in Paris, Bogomolov, delivers a “vigorous protest” against the actions of the French police in the Soviet repatriation camp, stating that it violates the Franco-Soviet repatriation act of 1945. France responds the same day, claiming that the Soviets have no extraterritorial rights at Beauregard and that there are reasons to suspect the Soviets plan to take three unregistered children of Franco-Soviet parentage to the USSR. Furthermore, as of December 1, 1947, the French authorities will take over the repatriation area.

Poland / Sweden – November 19, 1947 (KCA)

The Polish Government sends a strong note to the Swedish Government accusing the Swedish Consul in Gdansk (Danzig) of helping Korbonski and his wife flee Poland by smuggling them on board a Swedish vessel *Drottning Victoria*. The Swedish Government rejects the note as devoid of foundation and says it can take no responsibility for the individual acts of Swedish sailors.

Romania / United States – November 19, 1947 (LBC)

The State Department publishes its protest against the Romanian accusation that the U.S. is trying to overthrow the Bucharest government.

Hungary – November 20, 1947 (HC)

Károly Peyer, ex-chairman of the Social-Democratic Party, emigrates to the West.

Soviet Union / Iran – November 20, 1947 (KCA)

A strong Soviet protest against the nullification of the Soviet-Iranian oil agreement is issued.

Albania / Yugoslavia – November 20, 1947 (BST)

Nako Spiru, the member of the Albanian Communist party's Politburo responsible for economic policy, commits suicide. Despite his long association with the Yugoslavs, he opposed the Yugoslav measures to control the Albanian economy.

Hungary – November 21, 1947 (HC)

The National Assembly passes a law about the nationalization of the banks.

Romania – November 21, 1947 (KCA)

The Romanian Defense Ministry announces that all men who could not serve in the army due to their limitations (an estimated number of 120,000), will be conscripted in labor battalions for "work in the national interest". The length of this service is announced to be the same as their mandatory service in the army.

Hungary / Romania /– November 22, 1947 (HC)

Led by Prime Minister Lajos Dinnyés, a government delegation travels to Romania for a four-day visit.

On November 23, accompanied by Romanian Prime Minister Petru Groza, the delegation visits the Congress of the Hungarian Popular Alliance in Timișoara (Temesvár).

Hungary / France – November 22, 1947 (HC)

Hungary and France form a trade and economic agreement in Budapest.

Poland – November 22, 1947

The Polish cabinet deprives Mikołajczyk of his Polish citizenship.

Romania – November 22-23, 1947 (PIR)

The 3rd Congress of the Hungarian Popular Alliance takes place in Timișoara.

Hungary – November 23, 1947 (HC)

The program of the Hungarian Communist Party for the transformation of the sports movement is publicized.

Poland – November 24, 1947 (KCA)

It is announced that a special exchange rate (400 zlotys to the dollar instead of 100) will be applied to certain kinds of remittances to Poland from the U.S., e.g. assistance from relatives.

Soviet Union / Iran – November 24, 1947 (KCA)

Iranian Prime Minister Qavam replies to the Soviets denying that the Iranian Government follows "a hostile policy towards the Soviet Union".

Hungary / Romania – November 25, 1947 (HC)

Hungary and Romania form a cultural agreement.

Soviet Union / France – November 26, 1947 (KCA)

The French authorities expel 20 Soviet citizens from France due to alleged interference in French internal affairs. The Soviet Union sends a note of protest to the French Government.

Austria / Soviet Union – November 27, 1947 (KCA)

The Austrian Government issues a statement in which the total value of industrial equipment sent to the Soviet Union during the 2 ½ years of occupation is estimated at 700 million Austrian schillings.

Bulgaria / Yugoslavia – November 27, 1947 (KCA)

Tito and Dimitrov sign a 20-year treaty of friendship, collaboration and mutual aid.

Yugoslavia / Italy – November 28, 1947 (KCA)

The initial trade agreement between Italy and Yugoslavia from April 1947 is formally signed in Rome.

Soviet Union – November 29, 1947 (KCA)

A survey is published in the Soviet Communist journal *Party Life* claiming the following Communist Party strengths around the world:

Soviet Union: 6,000,000
Italy: 2,200,000
China: 2,000,000
Czechoslovakia: 1,250,000
France: 1,000,000
Poland: 800,000
Romania: 700,000
Bulgaria: 500,000
Yugoslavia: 400,000
Belgium: 100,000
Holland: 50,000
Sweden: 48,000
Great Britain 43,000

Romania – November 29 – December 6, 1947 (KCA)

The trial of Dr. Juliu Maniu, leader of the dissolved National Party, and 18 other members of the same party, takes place in the Bucharest military court. The defendants are accused of conspiring to promote intervention by foreign powers in Romanian internal affairs, and of leaking secret documents to the American and British officials in Bucharest. At the end of the trial Maniu and Mihalache are sentenced to penal servitude for life, the sentences of others ranging from one year imprisonment to 20 years of hard labor.

Romania – November 30, 1947 (PIR)

In the capital and elsewhere in the country, manifestations of the Jewish population

and of Zionist organizations support the decision adopted by the U.N. regarding the creation of a Jewish state in Palestine.

December 1947

Czechoslovakia / Romania – December 1, 1947 (PIR)

Romania and Czechoslovakia upgrade diplomatic relations to the level of embassy.

Romania – December 2, 1947 (PIR)

Youth brigades complete the construction of the natural gas pipe line Agnita-Botorca.

Soviet Union / Great Britain – December 2, 1947 (KCA)

The British and Soviet Governments agree on the immediate resumption of the trade negotiations suspended in July, 1947.

Poland – December 3, 1947 (KCA)

A trial in the military court of Warsaw opens with seven accused individuals who played a role in the coordination committee of the underground WIN organization. They are found guilty of high treason and espionage.

Austria – December 4, 1947 (KCA)

The Allied Control Council unanimously approves the bank bill.

Hungary – December 4, 1947 (HC)

The National Assembly approves a law on the complete equality of churches.

Bulgaria – December 4, 1947 (KCA)

The Bulgarian National Assembly, *Sobranje*, unanimously adopts the new Bulgarian Constitution and proclaims the country as People's Republic.

Hungary / Romania – December 5, 1947 (HC)

In Romania a law is passed according to which, at those locations where the non-Romanian population exceeds 30%, only people with the knowledge of the particular minority's language can become a judge.

Hungary / Yugoslavia – December 6, 1947 (HC)

Led by Tito, a Yugoslavian Government delegation travels to Budapest. They sign an agreement about mutual aid and support.

East Germany – December 6-7, 1947 (KCA)

The National Congress for Unity and Just Peace, mostly attended by representatives of the Socialist Unity Party (SED), is held in Berlin.

Bulgaria – December 7, 1947 (PLC)

The constitution of the People's Republic of Bulgaria comes into force.

Soviet Union / France – December 9, 1947 (KCA)

The French authorities expel the Soviet repatriation mission in France for engaging in subversive activities.

Yugoslavia / Great Britain – December 10, 1947 (KCA)

The Yugoslavian Government denounces the recent Anglo-Yugoslav agreement on the disposal of Yugoslav displaced persons. The denunciation is founded on grounds that the British Government has not fulfilled the terms of the agreement, citing as evidence that after two months no Yugoslav displaced person nor traitor was delivered to the Yugoslav authorities. Mayhew, Under Secretary at the British Foreign Office, expresses his surprise at the Yugoslav announcement.

Bulgaria – December 11, 1947 (KCA)

Dimitrov forms a new Fatherland Front Cabinet.

Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – December 11, 1947 (KCA)

A Czechoslovak-Soviet trade agreement is signed.

Soviet Union – December 14, 1947 (KRI)

Rationing for industrial and commercial goods ends. Monetary reform is announced.

Romania / Great Britain / United States – December 15, 1947 (KCA)

It is officially announced that the Romanian Government will take over the two largest British-owned oil companies in Romania, the *Astra Romana* and *Phoenix Oil*. A Communist press campaign claims that the British and American oil companies have been “sabotaging” Romanian oil production.

Albania / Bulgaria – December 16, 1947 (PLC)

An Albanian-Bulgarian agreement on friendship and mutual assistance is signed.

Bulgaria / Soviet Union – December 16, 1947 (KCA)

Moscow Radio announces that all Soviet troops have been withdrawn from Bulgaria in accordance with the Bulgarian peace treaty.

Soviet Union – December 16, 1947 (KCA)

A new decree comes into effect, devaluing the Russian ruble and abolishing the rationing of food and other commodities. Furthermore, it is announced that the Soviet Union will be divided into three geographical zones for food prices.

Romania / Yugoslavia – December 17-19, 1947 (PIR)

Tito visits Romania. He signs the treaty for friendship, co-operation and mutual assistance (December 19).

Hungary – December 18, 1947 (HC)

MTI (Hungarian News Agency) reports that the Soviet Union has accepted that the

Hungarian Government would deliver in 1948 the 600,000 quintals of wheat due in 1947 as part of the reparations.

Yugoslavia – December 18, 1947 (ACY)

The trial of a group of Franciscans takes place in Ljubljana. They are accused of organizing the escape of Ustaše to Italy and Austria, sending information to Ustaše abroad, and of collaborating with Martinčić, the provincial of the Croatian Franciscans, who came to Ljubljana to organize the escape routes.

Romania / Great Britain – December 21, 1947 (PIR)

King Mihai I and Queen Elena return from their trip to the U.K.

Soviet Union – December 21, 1947 (KCA)

The first municipal elections since 1939 are held in the Soviet Union. It is officially stated that over 99% of the electorate went to the polls, and in Moscow 99.36% of the votes are cast to the Communist and non-party bloc.

Romania – December 23, 1947 (PIR)

Emil Bodnăras is appointed Minister of War, replacing General Mihail Lascăr.

Bulgaria – December 24, 1947 (KCA)

The Bulgarian National Assembly passes a law providing for the nationalization of virtually all Bulgarian industry, except for industrial enterprises in Bulgaria belonging to foreign nationals.

Romania / Italy – December 24, 1947 (PIR)

Romania signs a new economic accord with Italy.

Poland – December 27, 1947 (KCA)

Seven people in a military court in Warsaw are found guilty of high treason and espionage, with death sentences given to two.

Yugoslavia – December 28-29, 1947 (ACY)

Simenc, former secretary to Bishop Rozman, and several laymen are tried in Ljubljana. They are sentenced to prison sentences ranging from two to six years.

Romania – December 30, 1947 (PLC)

Mihai I, the Romanian king, is forced to abdicate and emigrate. The People's Republic of Romania is proclaimed.

Hungary -Throughout the year (HC)

Nearly 50 thousand people with German ethnicity are relocated to the Soviet-occupied zone of Germany.

January 1948

Hungary – January 1948 (REV)

The number of people serving in the Hungarian military reaches 20,000.

Bulgaria / Yugoslavia – January 1, 1948 (KCA)

Visas for Bulgarian and Yugoslavian nationals travelling between the two countries are abolished.

Yugoslavia / U.S. – January 2, 1948 (KCA)

The Yugoslav Government sends a note to the U.S. Government demanding the unconditional release of Yugoslav funds totaling \$60-70 million, which had been removed from Yugoslavia just before the German invasion. The money was deposited with the Federal Reserve Bank in New York.

Austria – January 3-10, 1948, KCA

The repatriation of prisoners of war from the Soviet Union is completed.

Hungary / Soviet Union – January 4, 1948 (REV)

The Soviet Union informs the Hungarian Government that as of December 14, 1947, in line with the Paris peace treaty, only Soviet communication units for the Austrian occupation forces are stationed in Hungary. Remaining Soviet forces of the Third Army provide rail and road connections for army supplies. The Command and Staff of the 17th motorized armed division will move to Szombathely, and several of its units to Transdanubian posts; an airborne division will move to Veszprém and a bomber division to Debrecen; all divisions will be subordinate to the High Command of the Soviet Central Army Group in Baden, Austria.

Romania – January 4, 1948 (PIR)

King Mihai I, Queen Elena and their entourage leave Romania.

Romania – January 5, 1948 (PIR)

The first state-owned commercial company for foreign trade, “Romano-Export”, is founded.

Yugoslavia / U.K. – January 7, 1948 (KCA)

Leontic, the Yugoslav Ambassador in London, states that the Yugoslav funds in the United Kingdom, amounting to £3 million, have been handed back with no difficulties.

Romania – January 8, 1948 (PIR)

The Society of Democratic Writers in Romania, headed by Zaharia Stancu, is created.

Yugoslavia – January 8, 1948 (KCA)

The Yugoslav Cabinet is reorganized under the leadership of Tito.

Hungary – January 9, 1948 (REV)

The deportation of the German-speaking population of Hungary resumes: 36,000 Germans with Hungarian citizenship are moved to the Soviet occupation zone of Germany in the next six months.

Romania – January 9, 1948 (KCA)

A decree is published in Bucharest providing for the transfer of powers formally vested in King Michael to the new 5-man State Presidium. Professor Constantin Parhon is appointed as the chairman of the State Presidium.

Yugoslavia / Hungary – January 9, 1948 (PVC)

The Yugoslav Parliament unanimously ratifies the Yugoslav-Hungarian treaty of friendship.

Romania – January 10, 1948 (PIR)

The process of unmasking the monarchy begins through a sustained press campaign, chiefly in the Communist daily *Scântea*, under the title “the biggest predator of wealth”.

Romania – January 10, 1948 (PIR)

Avram Bunaciu is inaugurated as the State Under-Secretary at the Presidency of the Council of Ministers.

Soviet Bloc / U.S. – January 10, 1948 (LBC)

The U.S. State Department decides to tie the East European export of radar equipment to licensing, since these are classified as arms.

Romania / Soviet Union – January 11, 1948 (PIR)

A commercial delegation of Romania, led by Vasile Luca, Minister of Finance, I. Gh. Maurer, under-secretary of State at the Ministry of Industry and Commerce, and Miron Constantinescu, leaves for Moscow.

Romania – January 12, 1948 (PIR)

Lucrețiu Pătrășcanu is elected president of the Romanian Economic Institute. The Order Steaua RPR (RPR Star) is created through decree.

Yugoslavia / Hungary – January 13, 1948 (PVC)

Yugoslavia and Hungary exchange notes on ratification of the treaty of friendship and cultural exchange between the two countries.

Yugoslavia / U.S. – January 14, 1948 (KCA)

U.S. Secretary of State Marshall rejects the Yugoslav request for the return of confiscated funds, and demands compensation for the two U.S. planes shot down in Yugoslavia in August 1946.

Romania / Bulgaria – January 15-16, 1948 (PIR)

During an official visit to Bucharest, Georgi Dimitrov and Petru Groza sign a treaty for friendship, collaboration and mutual assistance between Bulgaria and Romania. Additionally, an Economic Collaboration Protocol is signed between the two countries.

Soviet Union / U.S. – January 15, 1948 (LBC)

According to an announcement of the U.S. Department of Commerce, all shipments to Europe need to be licensed. The announcement is the beginning of an economic embargo against the Soviet zone. The principal goal is to preclude the sale of raw materials and industrial products that would increase the USSR's military potential. Moreover, the embargo also aims to force the satellite nations to purchase high technology commodities from the USSR. It is believed that the Soviet Union would be unable to satisfy these needs, hence the satellites would be forced to turn to the West and purchase them in return for political concessions.

Hungary – January 16, 1948 (HC)

The Centre of Heavy Industry is formed. Its objective is to unite and govern the heavy industrial corporations.

Hungary / Soviet Union – January 19, 1948 (HC)

The Soviet Union decreases the Hungarian reparations requirements by 17 million dollars.

Soviet Union / U.S. – January 21, 1948 (LBC)

The U.S. State Department releases documents pertaining to Soviet-German relations between 1939 and 1941.

Hungary / Romania – January 22, 1948 (HC)

Led by Prime Minister Petru Groza, a Romanian Government delegation arrives in Budapest for an official visit. On January 24 they sign an agreement of mutual aid and support.

Romania – January 23, 1948 (PIR)

The Assembly of Deputies adopts a new electoral law, awarding the right to vote to all citizens of 20 years of age.

Bulgaria / Soviet Union / Yugoslavia – January 23, 1948 (LUY)

Pravda prints Dimitrov's January 17 Bucharest speech .

Hungary / Romania – January 24, 1948 (KCA)

A treaty of friendship, alliance and mutual assistance is signed between Hungary and Romania.

Greece – January 24, 1948 (REV)

Markos Vafiadis forms a communist counter-government in Greece.

Romania – January 24 – May 1, 1948 (PIR)

The Bucharest Confections Factory (APACA) is constructed using voluntary labor force.

Romania – January 25, 1948 (PIR)

The Central Institute for Statistics organizes the agricultural census of Romania.

Poland / Soviet Union – January 26, 1948 (KCA)

A Soviet-Polish trade agreement as well as an agreement on Soviet deliveries of industrial equipment on credit to Poland is signed.

Yugoslavia / Albania – January 26, 1948 (BST)

Tito formally requests from Hoxha a military base for the Yugoslav divisions at Korce, opposite Grammos, in order for Yugoslav units to be able to intervene quickly in case of the interference of Greek nationalists.

Hungary – January 27, 1948 (HC)

100 staff members are fired from the Hungarian Foreign Ministry.

Poland – January 28, 1948 (KCA)

The Polish *Sejm* passes a Bill introducing compulsory 6-month physical and military training for all Polish youth (ages 16 to 21)in order to inculcate the spirit of citizenship, train people in agriculture and industry, and develop physical efficiency in preparation for defending Polish independence.

Romania – January 29, 1948 (KCA)

The population of Romania is calculated at 15,872,624, with 85.7% Romanians, 9.4% Hungarians, 2.2% Germans and 0.9% Jews.

Soviet Union / U.S. – January 29-30 1948, (KCA)

The Soviet Government sends three notes to the United States Government protesting the recent reopening of the Mellaha Air Base in Libya for U.S. transport planes, the presence of American warships in Italian waters and alleged flights by U.S. aircraft over Soviet merchantmen in Far Eastern waters.

Soviet Union / Bulgaria – January 29, 1948 (BST)

Pravda disavows the statement of January 23, 1948 on Dimitrov's speech in Bucharest.

Hungary / Poland – January 31, 1948 (HC)

Hungary and Poland sign an agreement on cultural exchange.

February 1948

Hungary / Czechoslovakia – February 1948 (HC)

Új Szó, a newspaper of the Hungarian minority in Czechoslovakia, is first published in Czechoslovakia.

Yugoslavia – February 1948 (ACY)

Bishop Varnava is put on trial, accused of treason by weakening the military and economic strength of Yugoslavia, of helping terrorist bands, and of hostile propaganda. It is the first trial of an Orthodox bishop in Yugoslavia

Hungary – February 1, 1948 (HC)

The Police Academy opens in Budapest.

Poland – February 1, 1948 (KCA)

The results of a census held on January 1, 1948 in the city of Wroclaw show that out of the 241,000 inhabitants, only 2,500 are Germans. The city has thus assumed a completely Polish character.

Romania – February 1, 1948 (KCA)

A statement is issued in Bucharest informing of the merger of the Ploughmen's Front led by Prime Minister Groza and of the Peasant Party led by Anton Alexandrescu into the United Peasant Party of Romania.

Soviet Union / U.S. / Iran – February 2, 1948 (KCA)

Moscow radio announces that a strong Soviet note has been handed to the Iranian Government, protesting U.S. activities in Iran.

Romania / Soviet Union – February 2-4, 1948 (PIR)

A Romanian governmental delegation (Petru Groza, Gh. Gheorghiu-Dej, Ana Pauker, Vasile Luca, and others) negotiates in Moscow with the Soviet leadership. A treaty of friendship, co-operation and mutual assistance is signed.

Romania / U.S. / U.K. – February 3-4, 1948 (KCA)

British and American notes protesting Romania's denial of human rights violations and violation of the peace treaty are presented in Bucharest, drawing attention to the recent Romanian elections and persecution of opposition parties.

Soviet Union / Iran – February 5, 1948 (KCA)

The Iranian Government rejects the February 2 Soviet note as interference in internal affairs.

Soviet Union – February 5, 1948 (KCA)

Moscow announces that the Minister of Justice, Nikolai Rychkov, has been removed from office for "unsatisfactory work" and replaced by Konstantin Gorshenin.

Hungary – February 5, 1948 (HC)

In his speech in Csepel, Mátyás Rákosi promises the return of every prisoner of war, who is held in the Soviet Union by the end of 1948.

Bulgaria / U.S. – February 6, 1948 (LBC)

The State Department protests the trial of a former Bulgarian agrarian politician, Gichev.

Finland – February 6, 1948 (KCA)

The Bank of Finland increases its discount rate from 5.25% to 7.25%.

Hungary February 6, 1948 (HC)

The National Assembly approves the 1948:XIII Law on the nationalization of the bauxite and aluminum industries.

Poland – February 8, 1948 (KCA)

The part of the Peasant Party which, under leadership of Jan Niecko had renounced Mikolajczyk's leadership, is admitted to the Government *bloc* parties.

Yugoslavia / Soviet Union / Bulgaria – February 10, 1948 (PVC)

On Stalin's order, a Soviet-Yugoslav-Bulgarian meeting takes place in Moscow. The Yugoslav delegation is forced to sign an agreement on consultation with the Soviet Union. The meeting means the beginning of the emerging Soviet-Yugoslav rift.

Soviet Union – February 11, 1948 (KCA)

The Central Committee of the Communist Party issues a statement criticizing three famous Russian composers, Dmitri Shostakovitch, Sergei Prokofiev and Aram Khatchurian as well as other composers, music critics, the Moscow Conservatoire, and the Arts Commission of the Government, for encouraging anti-democratic tendencies in Soviet music, and lays out a four-point programme to be followed by the Soviet musical world.

Poland – February 11- March 2, 1948 (PSN)

The Warsaw regional court sentences two members of the "Polish Organization" and the national armed forces, Stanislaw Kasznica and Lech Neyman, to death.

Yugoslavia / Romania – February 12, 1948 (LUY)

An article appears in the French paper *Figaro*, stating that "according to reports arriving from Bucharest, the Communist Party of Romania has ordered the removal of Marshal Tito's portrait from public view."

Germany, Soviet Occupied Zone – February 13, 1948 (KCA)

Marshal Sokolovsky issues an order defining the powers, purposes and composition of an Economic Commission for the Soviet zone of Germany.

Hungary / Soviet Union – February 13, 1948 (HC)

Led by President Zoltán Tildy, Prime Minister Lajos Dinnyés and Deputy Prime Minister Mátyás Rákosi, a Hungarian government delegation travels to Moscow. On **February 18** they sign a treaty of friendship, co-operation and mutual assistance.

The National Assembly passes the 1948:XVIII Law about the establishment of the Kossuth prize. It is a national prize to award scientists, artists and other physical and intellectual workers who excel in their field.

Romania – February 14, 1948 (PIR)

The conference of tribunal presidents and of representatives of popular establishments from over 30 districts takes place in the presence of Lucrețiu Pătrășcanu, Minister of Justice.

Romania – February 15, 1948 (PIR)

The national Conference of the UFDR opens, electing Ana Pauker as honorary president.

Romania / Bulgaria – February 15, 1948 (PIR)

Romania and Bulgaria upgrade their diplomatic representations to the rank of embassy.

Romania / Soviet Union – February 16, 1948 (PIR)

The Romanian Parliament ratifies the treaty of friendship between the USSR and Romania.

Czechoslovakia – February 17, 1948 (KCA)

In a Cabinet meeting, the Communist ministers demand the introduction of measures dealing with nationalization. The non-Communist ministers protest strongly against the idea of nationalization and against Interior Minister Nosek's appointing of fellow communists to important positions in the security police and dismissing the non-communists.

Soviet Union – February 17, 1948 (KCA)

Moscow Radio announces that Alexei Kosygin has succeeded Arseny Zverev as Minister of Finance.

Czechoslovakia – February 18, 1948 (KCA)

The Czechoslovak Communist Party issues a manifesto accusing the non-Communist parties of provoking a crisis in the Cabinet and of working to overthrow the National Front Government before the upcoming general elections.

Hungary – February 18, 1948 (REV)

Anna Kéthly and several other ostensibly right leaning politicians are removed from the leadership of the Social Democratic Party (SZDP). On March 5–7, the

party's 36th Congress expels them from the party and empowers the leadership to start negotiating with the Hungarian Communist Party (MKP) on forming a unified workers' party.

Soviet Union / Burma – February 18, 1948 (KCA)

Burma and the Soviet Union agree to establish diplomatic and consular relations and an exchange of Ambassadors.

Soviet Union / Belgium – February 18, 1948 (KCA)

A trade agreement is signed between the Soviet Union and the Belgo-Luxemburg Economic Union.

Czechoslovakia – February 21, 1948 (KCA)

The Czech National Socialist Party, the People's Party and the Slovak Democratic Party withdraw their 12 ministers from the National Front Government after Nosek refuses to withdraw the Communist appointments from the security police. The Communist Party sends a letter to President Beneš urging him to accept the resignations. President Beneš answers that he wishes to accept no resignations before the general elections. Gottwald, the leader of the Communist Party calls for the setting up of action committees around the country to carry out arbitrary purges of political opponents, the press, educational and cultural institutions and government offices.

Romania – February 21-23, 1948 (PIR)

The First Congress of the PMR takes place during which the PCR and PSD unite to form the Romanian Workers' Party (PMR). Gheorghiu-Dej is elected Secretary General of the party. Members of the Political Bureau are elected: Gh. Apostol, Emil Bodnăraş, Iosif Chişinevski, Vasile Luca, Alex Moghioroş, Ana Pauker, Gh. Vasilichi, Ştefan Voitec. Lucreţiu Pătrăşcanu is removed from the leadership of the new party: the first step towards his future liquidation.

Czechoslovakia – February 22, 1948 (KCA)

In a Communist mass demonstration in Prague, Gottwald, the leader of the Communist Party accuses the leaders of the opposition parties of trying to block the government's programme of Socialist reforms and calls for early elections.

Yugoslavia / Soviet Union – February 22, 1948 (BST)

Moscow rejects new Yugoslav economic requests.

Yugoslavia / Albania / Soviet Union – February 23, 1948 (BST)

On the Soviet Army Day's reception at the Soviet embassy in Tirana, Albania, Soviet chargé d'affaires Gagarinov lifts his glass before the assembled Albanian leadership and Yugoslav diplomats. He proposes an odd toast to "Marshal Tito, insofar as his work strengthens the world democratic front." This is considered to be the first open indication of the Soviet-Yugoslav rift.

Czechoslovakia – February 24, 1948 (KCA)

Action Committees are in full operation around the country. As a result, the editors and journalists of a number of opposition newspapers are expelled from the Union of Journalists. The Minister of Interior announces that all articles appearing in any paper or periodical magazines must first be submitted for official approval.

Romania – February 24, 1948 (PIR)

Lucrețiu Pătrășcanu resigns from the position of Minister of Justice, and is replaced with Avram Bunaciu. The Assembly of Deputies is dissolved by law; the Great National Assembly is called and legislative power transferred to the Government.

Czechoslovakia – February 25, 1948 (KCA)

President Beneš accepts the resignations of 12 non-Communist ministers. A new cabinet is formed with increasing Communist representation, and Communists begin to take up all the key portfolios.

Czechoslovakia / France / U.K. / U.S. – February 26, 1948 (KCA)

In a joint statement, the American, British and French Governments condemn the new Czechoslovak regime as a disguised dictatorship and accuse the Communists of seizing power.

Romania / Poland – February 26-28, 1948 (PIR)

Petru Groza visits Poland, where he holds discussions with Prime Minister Josef Cyrankiewicz and signs a convention for cultural collaboration.

Czechoslovakia – February 27, 1948 (KCA)

The new Czechoslovak Cabinet is sworn in. The Communist Minister of Education Nejedlý orders every schoolroom to display a portrait of Stalin.

Finland / Soviet Union – February 27, 1948 (KCA)

It is officially announced in Helsinki that Stalin proposed to Finnish President Paasikivi the conclusion of a mutual assistance pact between Finland and the Soviet Union, calling for a Finnish delegation to be sent to Moscow to discuss the matter.

Germany, Soviet Occupied Zone – February 27, 1948 (KCA)

Marshal Sokolovsky issues a decree declaring that the denazification of the Soviet zone of Germany has now been completed.

Romania – February 27, 1948 (PIR)

PMR, Plowmen's Front, PNL-Bejan and the Hungarian Popular Alliance form the Front of People's Democracy (FDP).

Czechoslovakia – February 28, 1948 (KCA)

Communist leader Gottwald calls for a purge to be carried out "sternly and ruthlessly" so that no conspiracy could threaten the Republic. The Ministry of

Information imposes a ban on foreign newspapers. Drtina, one of the former ministers, is found on a street close to his apartment with a severely fractured skull. A letter is found in his pocket stating his will to commit suicide.

Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union / U.S. – February 28, 1948 (LBC)

Senator Vandenberg's speech: the Czech coup and the Soviet pressure on Finland make it vital to accomplish the European Reconstruction Program.

March 1948

Poland / Soviet Union – March 1948 (HDP)

Polish Prime Minister Cyrankiewicz travels to Moscow to discuss the unification of the Polish worker's movement.

Hungary / Romania – March 1, 1948 (HC)

The *Romániai Magyar Szó* the newspaper of the Hungarian Popular Alliance is first published.

Romania – March 1, 1948 (PIR)

The institution of popular assessors is founded through the new law of judicial organization.

Yugoslavia / Soviet Union – March 1, 1948 (RYE)

Tito takes the Soviet-Yugoslav conflict before the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Yugoslavia, the first time it has been discussed outside Tito's inner circle. It is also the first time the Central Committee has met in full session since its election in Zagreb in 1940. The CC rejects the Soviet demands in a vote of confidence. Until May, Stalin continues to try to bring the Yugoslav communists back to its allies.

Czechoslovakia – March 2, 1948 (KCA)

Czech Minister of Justice Cepicka issues an official order making the Action Committees the "supreme organs on cultural and political matters", and the Central Action Committee in Prague a permanent institution.

Finland / Soviet Union – March 2, 1948 (KCA)

The Finnish People's Democratic League, comprising of the Communist Party and the pro-Communist Socialist Unity Party, express their support for a Soviet-Finnish treaty of mutual assistance; other parties express their willingness to discuss the matter.

Czechoslovakia – March 3, 1948 (KCA)

The Czechoslovak Ambassadors in Ottawa and Washington DC resign, claiming Czechoslovakia has become a "totalitarian police state".

Soviet Union – March 3, 1948 (KCA)

Moscow announces that the Soviet Minister of Internal Trade, Alexander Lyubimov, has been suspended “in view of unsatisfactory work”.

Soviet Union / Egypt – March 3, 1948 (KCA)

A trade agreement is signed between Egypt and the Soviet Union.

Czechoslovakia – March 4, 1948 (KCA)

16 leading officials in the Ministry of Justice are purged, along with many judges.

Hungary – March 4, 1948 (HC)

The number 2730/1948 governmental order is announced concerning the creation of the National Bauxite and Aluminum Incorporated Company.

Romania – March 4, 1948 (KCA/PIR)

The former Romanian king, King Mihai I, arrives in London and issues a press statement on his abdication, saying that he was forced to abdicate under pressure from the Groza Government. He outlines that the abdication was forced on him, and that he considers it null and void.

Romania – March 4, 1948 (PIR)

The plenary of the Union of Democratic Priests takes place. Participants “take note with vivid satisfaction of the consolidation and organization of working forces in the PMR.”

Yugoslavia / U.S. – March 4, 1948 (KCA)

The Economic Committee of the U.N. Economic and Social Council decides that the U.S.-Yugoslav dispute on the return of the \$56 million of Yugoslav gold falls outside the Council’s jurisdiction.

Bulgaria – March 5, 1948 (KCA)

The Bulgarian Minister in Brussels announces his resignation.

Hungary – March 5, 1948 (HC)

The number 3190/1948 governmental order is announced on the organization of evening schools for workers.

Hungary – March 5-7, 1948 (HC)

The 36th Congress of the Social-Democratic Party takes place in Budapest. It condemns the behavior of the right wing Social-Democrats, and authorizes the party leadership to begin negotiations with the Hungarian Communist Party to create a united workers party. It approves the exclusion of Anna Kéthly, Ferenc Szeder and Imre Szélig from the party.

Czechoslovakia – March 7, 1948 (KCA)

The Government's new Nationalization Bill provides for far-reaching nationalization of enterprises and state control on all foreign trade.

Bulgaria – March 7, 1948 (KCA)

The Bulgarian Minister in London announces his resignation.

Czechoslovakia – March 8, 1948 (KCA)

The Czechoslovak Government announces that Jan Masaryk, the Foreign Minister, committed suicide by jumping out of his window.

Finland / Soviet Union – March 8, 1948 (KCA)

Helsinki announces that President Paasikivi has accepted Stalin's invitation for negotiations on a mutual assistance treaty. A Finnish delegation will be sent to Moscow.

Romania – March 9, 1948 (KCA)

The Astra Romana Oil Company is shut down under government pressure.

Czechoslovakia / UN – March 10, 1948 (KCA)

The Czechoslovak representative to the United Nations Jan Paanek, formally requests the UN Security Council to investigate the events which have led to the Communist seizure of power in the Czech Republic, suspecting a massive Soviet involvement in the chain of events.

Czechoslovakia / U.S. – March 10, 1948 (LBC)

Following the death of Czech Foreign Minister Masaryk, U.S. Secretary of State Marshall declares the world situation "very, very serious". He calls for "cool judgment" instead of passion in deciding U.S. strategy in a "great crisis".

Hungary – March 10, 1948 (HC)

The Connective Committee of the Social-Democratic Party and the Communist Party decides that the unification of the two parties will be executed by the 1st of July.

Germany, Soviet Occupied Zone – March 10, 1948 (KCA)

Berlin announces that the new Economic Commission for the Soviet zone of Germany will take over the functions formerly performed by the various central agencies set up after the occupation.

Romania – March 11, 1948 (PIR)

A decree of the Council of State regulates the succession to the leadership of the Romanian Orthodox Church. According to it, the metropolitan of Moldavia, Iustinian Marina, is provisionally installed at the head of the Patriarchy with the agreement of the permanent Synod.

Hungary – March 12-13, 1948 (HC)

High ranking Bulgarian, Czechoslovak, Yugoslavian, Polish, Romanian and Soviet delegations arrive in Hungary to celebrate the 100th anniversary (March 15) of the 1848 Hungarian Revolution and Fight for Freedom.

France / U.K. / Belgium / The Netherlands, Luxembourg – March 12, 1948 (LBC)

The United Kingdom, France, the Netherlands, Belgium and Luxembourg sign the Brussels pact. The pact includes the mutual defense treaties of the signatories. According to *Izvestia* the Brussels pact guarantees unchallenged intervention in Western Europe for the United States.

Czechoslovakia – March 13, 1948 (KCA)

The funeral of former Czechoslovak Foreign Minister Jan Masaryk takes place.

Soviet Union – March 15, 1948 (KCA)

Moscow announces the demobilization of the senior age groups from the Soviet Army.

Yugoslavia – March 15, 1948 (KCA)

The population of Yugoslavia numbers 15,751,953.

Hungary – March 17, 1948 (HC)

The unified Budapest Committee of the Hungarian Communists Party and the Social-Democratic Party is formed. Its chairman is János Kádár.

Romania / Albania – March 17, 1948 (PIR)

Romania and Albania re-establish diplomatic relations at the level of legation.

Bulgaria / Soviet Union – March 18, 1948 (KCA)

A treaty of friendship, co-operation and mutual assistance between Bulgaria and the Soviet Union is signed.

Romania – March 18, 1948 (PIR)

Authorities continue the series of manifestations and rallies supporting the electoral campaign.

Yugoslavia / Soviet Union – March 18, 1948 (WBA)

The withdrawal of Soviet military advisers from Yugoslavia begins.

Yugoslavia / Hungary – March 18, 1948 (WBA)

Agreements on the Exchange of Commodities and on payments arising from the Exchange of goods are signed between Yugoslavia and Hungary

Czechoslovakia – March 19, 1948 (KCA)

Vladimir Clementis is appointed as the new Czechoslovak Foreign Minister.

Allied forces / Germany – March 20, 1948 (KCA)

The Soviet delegation of the Allied Control Council walks out of a meeting in Berlin, accusing the Western powers of undermining the quadripartite control of Germany.

Yugoslavia / Trieste / Allied forces – March 20, 1948 (CUY/BST)

The Tripartite Declaration on Trieste takes place. The Western powers propose that both zones of the disputed territory of Trieste, including the Yugoslav held Zone B, be assigned to Italy.

Yugoslavia – March 20, 1948 (PVC)

Decrees relating to dealings in real estate and amendments to the Nationalization Law are promulgated in Belgrade on March 20 and April 23.

Soviet Union / Western allies – March 21, 1948 (LBC)

According to a Soviet accusation, the West is acting behind the Soviet Union's back concerning the proposals on Trieste.

Czechoslovakia / U.K. – March 22, 1948 (LBC)

According to the United Kingdom U.N. representative, Communism must be held back even at the risk of war. The diplomat expresses this view at the U.N. Security Council debate on the Czechoslovak coup.

Romania / U.S. – March 22, 1948 (PIR)

Former Romanian King Mihai I is received by President Truman in the White House.

Soviet Union / U.K. – March 25, 1948 (KCA)

The British Government sends a note to the Soviet Government repudiating the allegations made by Marshal Sokolovsky on March 20.

Hungary March 25, 1948 (REV)

Companies with over a 100 workers are nationalized without notice and worker-managers are appointed. The nationalization does not apply to foreign-owned companies.

Soviet Union / U.S. – March 25, 1948 (KCA)

U.S. Navy Secretary John Sullivan, declares that "submarines not belonging to any nation west of the Iron Curtain" were recently sighted off U.S. coasts, implying Soviet involvement.

Soviet Bloc / U.S. – March 26, 1948 (LBC)

President Truman prohibits the sale of aircrafts to the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe. A spokesman of the Department of Commerce says that the complete termination of trade with the USSR would be a significant diplomatic measure.

Although the USSR delivers manganese and chrome to the U.S. steel industry, no export licenses are allowed without the necessary investigation.

Yugoslavia / Soviet Union – March 27, 1948 (WBA)

The Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union sends a letter to the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Yugoslavia, criticizing the policy of the Yugoslav Communist Party. It is the first Soviet letter to the Yugoslav Communist Party in a series of exchange of letters.

Yugoslavia / The Netherlands – March 27, 1948 (OEH)

Yugoslavia signs an agreement on economic cooperation with the Netherlands.

Romania – March 28, 1948 (KCA, PIR)

General elections are held in Romania. The elections (for the Grand National Assembly) are won by the Front of People's Democracy (93.2%) which obtains 405 seats; PNL-Bejan obtains 7 seats while the Peasants' Democratic Party-N. Lupu gains 2 seats.

Romania – March 29, 1948 (PIR)

Greek-catholic bishops forward a memorandum to the President of the RPR Presidium to request the modification of certain articles of the Constitution project. They propose that article 28 should have the following text: "freedom of consciousness and religious freedom are guaranteed and supported by the state."

Soviet Union / U.S. – March 29, 1948 (KCA)

The Soviet News Agency *Tass* declares that both Sullivan's statements and the rumors of Russian submarines spying on the United States are "an absurd and slanderous fabrication calculated to deceive American opinion".

Germany, Soviet Occupied Zone – March 31, 1948 (KCA)

The Soviet Military Government informs the U.S., British and French authorities in Berlin that starting on April 1, 1948 new and stricter traffic regulations will be put into effect between the Eastern and Western zones of Berlin.

Hungary – March 31, 1948 (HC)

The Budapest Stock and Commodity Exchange stops its operation.

Yugoslavia – March 31, 1948 (KCA)

Belgrade reports the formation of youth brigades to take part in the reconstruction of Yugoslavia.

April 1948

Yugoslavia / U.K. – April-May 1948 (PVC)

Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs Aleš Bebler visits London.

Czechoslovakia / Poland – April 1, 1948 (KCA)

Following Polish-Czechoslovak negotiations, a duty-free zone for imports is leased to Czechoslovakia at Szezecin.

Germany, Soviet Occupied Zone – April 1, 1948 (KCA)

As a response to the new Soviet regulations, American and British authorities cancel all rail traffic between Eastern and Western Germany.

Hungary – April 1, 1948 (HC)

The Social-Democratic Party recalls 32 of its representatives.

Romania – April 1, 1948 (PIR)

Work on the national construction sites for youth patriotic labor in Bumbesti-Livezeni - "Gh. Gheorghiu Dej", Salva-Viseu - "Vasile Luca," and Lunca Prutului, begin.

Soviet Union / Turkey – April 3, 1948 (KCA)

The new Soviet Ambassador, Lavrishev, arrives in Ankara.

Hungary / Soviet Union – April 4, 1948 (REV)

During the liberation festivities, the Soviet Union returns some Hungarian military banners captured by the Russian army after the defeat of the 1848–1849 revolution and war of independence.

Hungary – April 4-5, 1948 (HC)

The Great Electoral Convention of the Hungarian Peasant Party takes place in Budapest. It re-elects Péter Veress as its chairman, and Ferenc Erdei as its party secretary.

Germany, Soviet Occupied Zone – April 5, 1948 (KCA)

A serious incident occurs when a Viking passenger aircraft of British European Airways crashes in the Soviet Sector of Berlin after colliding with a Soviet fighter plane. All people are killed. Consequently all subsequent British planes flying in the Soviet zone would have accompanying fighter protection.

Hungary / U.K. April 5, 1948 (KCA)

A Hungarian communiqué states that in Anglo-Hungarian financial negotiations held on March 17-25, an agreement was reached for a short term Hungarian pre-war debt settlement with the United Kingdom.

Poland – April 5-29, 1948 (KCA)

A trial is held in Gdansk in which Albert Forster, former Gauleiter of Gdansk, is sentenced to death for multiple crimes while he was associated with the Nazis.

Finland / Soviet Union – April 6, 1948 (KCA/CSB)

After tough negotiations, the Finno-Soviet treaty of friendship and mutual

assistance is signed in Moscow. Contrary to Soviet treaties with Hungary and Romania, the Soviet Union may give military assistance to Finland only after talks between the two governments. The treaty lasts 10 years instead of 20, and according to it Finland preserves freedom of action in foreign political affairs. – In reality the treaty was the starting point of the process of “Finlandization”: this meant the preservation of the country’s democratic political system with relatively little Soviet interference in internal affairs, but in the field of foreign policy - in spite of the country’s neutral status – Finland was subordinated to Moscow’s policy.

Yugoslavia / Italy – April 7, 1948 (KCA)

The Yugoslav and Italian governments reach an agreement to grant reprieves to each other’s citizens who were previously sentenced in the other’s military and civil courts, or were in prison while waiting for trial.

Czechoslovakia – April 9, 1948 (KCA)

Prime Minister Gottwald declares that all parties in the National Front Government have agreed to present a single list of candidates.

The Ministry of Social Welfare states that approximately 8,300 people were affected by the purges that occurred since the “February Revolution”.

Hungary – April 10, 1948 (HC)

The relocations and citizen exchanges between Hungary and Czechoslovakia end. It affects the lives of approximately 200 thousand people.

Bulgaria – April 10, 1948 (OSA)

The Military People’s Youth Organization (VMO) is founded. It is a newly created “society,” believed to be established through the Bulgarian army. The VMO soldiers are told to spy and inform on non-Communist soldiers, and the reports are delivered to the Political Director Capitan Hristozov.

Yugoslavia – April 11, 1948 (KCA)

Preparations to rebuild Belgrade begin as a part of the national reconstruction plan.

Yugoslavia / Soviet Union – April 12-13, 1948 (RYE)

A two-day meeting of the Central Committee of the Yugoslav Communist Party refutes Soviet accusations of revisionism.

Romania – April 13, 1948 (PIR)

The Provisional Presidium of RPR is transformed in the Presidium of the Grand National Assembly, its presidency is held – until June 2nd, 1952 – by dr. C.I. Parhon, dr. Petru Groza – President of the Council of Ministers –, Prof. Traian Săvulescu –vice-president of the Council of Ministers –, Ștefan Voitec – Second Vice-President of the Council of Ministers –, Ana Pauker – Minister of External Affairs –, Vasile Luca – Minister of Finance –, Teohari Georgescu – Minister of

Internal Affairs –, Emil Bodnăraș – Minister of National Defense –, Avram Bunaciu – Minister of Justice –, Theodor Iordăchescu – Minister of Public Works –, dr. Florica Bagdasar – Minister of Health –, Lothar Rădăceanu – Minister of Work and Social Provision –, Gh. Vasilichi – Minister of Education –, prof. Stanciu Stoian – Minister of Culture –, Octav Livezeanu – Minister of Arts and Information –, Vasile Vaida – Minister of Agriculture –, Ion Vințe – Minister of Silviculture –, Miron Constantinescu – minister of Mines and Petrol –, Chivu Stoica – Minister of Industry –, Bucur Șchipu – Minister of Commerce

Romania – April 13, 1948 (PIR)

The Grand National Assembly adopts the first Constitution of the People's Republic of Romania.

Yugoslavia / Soviet Union – April 13, 1948 (WBA)

A letter by the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Yugoslavia (written by Tito himself) is sent to Stalin and Molotov, including the famous saying: "No matter how much each of us loves the land of socialism, the USSR, he can in no case love his own country less."

Romania – April 15, 1948 (KCA)

A new Romanian Cabinet is formed with Groza re-elected as Prime Minister.

Yugoslavia / U.K. – April 15, 1948 (PVC)

Yugoslavia sends a note to the United Kingdom inviting the British Government to consider reducing the number of British consulates in Yugoslavia.

Romania – April 16, 1948 (KCA)

The Romanian-American Oil Company is a subsidiary of Standard Oil of New Jersey whose capital is exclusively American and is responsible for 13-14% of Romanian crude oil production. It is taken over by the Romanian Ministry of Mines.

Hungary – April 17-18, 1948 (HC)

The Great Electoral Convention of the FKGP takes place in Budapest. It proclaims that the basic ideology of the party is the people's democracy, stressing the importance of uniting the parties against right wing forces. It also highlights its support for the government's foreign policy. It re-elects István Dobi as Chairman, and János Gyöngyösi as General Secretary.

Romania – April 17, 1948 (PIR)

The National Student Congress takes place in Iasi.

Finland / Soviet Union – April 21, 1948 (KCA)

The Finnish-Soviet mutual assistance treaty is ratified in the Finnish Parliament.

Yugoslavia – April 21-27, 1948 (PVC)

The trial of Stane Osvald, assistant of the Federal Ministry of Industry, Oskar Juratović, General Secretary at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and others takes place in Ljubljana.

Romania – April 22, 1948 (PIR)

The RPR Government addresses a note to the “monarcho-fascist” government in Athens, protesting the abuses against Greek communists.

Bulgaria / Czechoslovakia – April 23, 1948 (KCA)

A Czechoslovak-Bulgarian treaty of mutual assistance and friendship is signed.

Yugoslavia / Soviet Union – April 24, 1948 (WBA)

The Soviet Ambassador in Belgrade informs the Yugoslav Deputy Foreign Minister, Aleš Bebler, on the arbitrary annulment of the Agreement on Consultation between Yugoslavia and the USSR.

Yugoslavia / U.S. – April 25, 1948 (WBA)

The Yugoslav authorities demand the reduction of the number of United States consulates in Yugoslavia.

Romania – April 28, 1948 (PIR)

Lucrețiu Pătrășcanu, former Minister of Justice and communist since the interwar period, is arrested and imprisoned at Jilava. His arrest is followed by one of the longest investigations in communist history.

Yugoslavia – April 28, 1948 (RSB)

The National Assembly adopts the second law on nationalization.

Czechoslovakia – April 29-July 31, 1948 (KCA)

The trial of five of the leading ministers of the war-time ‘puppet’ government takes place. Four of the five defendants are found guilty, and sentences range from 1 year of hard labor to 25 years of prison.

Romania – April 29, 1948 (PIR)

The Order of Labor is created through a state decree.

Hungary – April 30, 1948 (HC)

The first prizes for exceptional workers are awarded.

Soviet Union / Australia – April 30, 1948 (KCA)

It is announced that Australia and the Soviet Union will raise their legations in Moscow and Canberra to the status of embassies, and that the present ministers will henceforth have Ambassadorial rank.

May 1948

Yugoslavia / Austria – May 1948 (HWC)

Negotiations on the Yugoslav claims to Austrian Carinthia, particularly to two power stations on the River Drava, are interrupted and will only be resumed in early 1949.

Hungary / U.K. – May 3, 1948 (KCA)

The Board of Trade in London announces that Anglo-Hungarian trade negotiations in London reached an agreement and were concluded successfully.

Soviet Union / U.S. – May 4, 1948 (LBC)

The message of President Truman and Secretary of State Marshall to Molotov states that the U.S. has no aggressive designs against the USSR, and that it only supports other democracies' defense against Soviet and domestic communist threats. They deem inexplicable Moscow's lack of participation in the Marshall Plan. It is within Moscow's power to relieve many problems that complicate the international situation.

Yugoslavia / Soviet Union – May 4, 1948 (WBA)

The Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union sends its second letter, probably written by Stalin himself, to the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Yugoslavia.

Romania – May 5-6, 1948 (PIR)

Constantin Titel Petrescu along with other notable members of the Social-Democrat Independent Party is arrested violently.

Yugoslavia – May 6, 1948 (KCA)

Belgrade announces that Minister of Finance Zujovic and the Minister of Light Industry Andrije Hebrang, have been relieved from their duties and succeeded by Dobrivoje and Sava Zlatic.

Soviet Union / U.S. – May 9, 1948 (LBC)

Molotov sends a message to U.S. Ambassador Smith in response to Truman's May 4 statement. Molotov states that the Soviet Government agrees with the U.S. on the necessity of talks to clear up certain differences of opinion, but he also criticizes U.S. foreign policy.

Yugoslavia – May 9, 1948 (BST)

At the plenum of the Central Committee of the Yugoslavian Communist Party, the Yugoslavian leadership expels Andrije Hebrang and Sretan Žujović from the Central Committee and the Party, thereby opening the door for their formal arrest under charges of treason and espionage.

Romania – May 10-11, 1948 (PIR)

The plenary of the CC of the PMR investigates the way the electoral campaigns

and the verification of party members were conducted. Also discussed is the inclusion of Pintilie Bodnarenco in the Central Committee and the nationalization of the means of production. Additionally, the political activity of Lucrețiu Pătrășcanu is on the agenda.

Hungary – May 11, 1948 (HC)

The Hungarian Radical Party and the Civic Democratic Party form the Civic Radical Party Alliance. Its objective is the cooperation of the two parties.

Soviet Union / U.S. – May 11, 1948 (KCA)

Moscow announces that the Soviet Government has accepted the American proposal to negotiate all outstanding questions between them.

Soviet Union / U.S. – May 11, 1948 (KCA)

Henry Wallace describes a recent exchange of letters with Marshal Stalin on important questions concerning the United States and the Soviet Union. In a letter to Marshal Stalin, Wallace advocates unity in rehabilitating Europe, the conclusion of a Germany peace treaty, peace in the Far East, mutual trade and assurances with regard to Soviet and American intentions, and constructive competition between Communism and Capitalism.

Czechoslovakia / Switzerland – May 12, 1948 (KCA)

A Czechoslovak-Swiss agreement on compensation for nationalized Swiss property in Czechoslovakia is announced.

Soviet Union – May 14, 1948 (KCA)

It is announced that Jacob Malik will replace Gromyko as the Soviet representative to the United Nations.

Czechoslovakia – May 15-22, 1948, (KCA)

The post-war population of Czechoslovakia is calculated at 12,250,000. 8,200,000 are Czechs, 2,900,000 Slovaks, 400,000 Germans, 400,000 Hungarians, 70,000 Poles and 20,000 Jews (compared to 180,000 Jews before the war).

Soviet Union / U.S. – May 17, 1948 (KCA)

Marshal Stalin describes Wallace's letter as a "most important document" which "does not confine itself to making declarations but gives a concrete programme for the peaceful settlement of differences between the USSR and the U.S."

Yugoslavia / Soviet Union – May 17, 1948 (YPP)

The Central Committee of the Yugoslav Communist Party sends another letter to the Soviet Communist Party addressed to comrades Stalin and Molotov rejecting the charges presented in the previous Soviet letter.

Yugoslavia / Greece – May 17, 1948 (HWC)

According to the French Military Attaché in Athens, Belgrade has decided not to supply the Greek rebels with any further weapons.

Soviet Union / U.S. – May 19, 1948 (KCA)

The American State Department describes Stalin's reply to Wallace's letter as encouraging, and issues an 11-point statement of issues covering not only bilateral relations of the U.S. and USSR, but many other concerns too. The points include reduction of armaments, the German peace settlement, respect of national sovereignty, and international trade.

Soviet Union / France / U.K. / U.S. – May 19, 1948 (LBC)

U.S. Secretary of State Marshall announces that a U.S. proposal was sent to the USSR, France and the United Kingdom to convene a four-power conference in order to draft a convention guaranteeing the freedom of navigation on the river Danube for July 30.

Romania – May 22, 1948 (PIR)

The Administration of State Farms and of Engine Stations is created.

Soviet Union – May 22, 1948 (KCA)

The Soviet news agency *Tass* issues a point-by-point reply to the 11-points of the U.S. State Department.

Yugoslavia / Soviet Union – May 22, 1948 (YPP)

The Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union sends its third letter to the Yugoslav Communist Party leadership.

Germany /Soviet Union – May 24, 1948 (KCA)

In a meeting of the *Allied Kommandatura*, (four power control body for Berlin) U.S. representatives formally accuse the Soviet Military Organization in Germany of kidnapping Germans and forcing them to work in uranium mines, alleging that 25,000-30,000 people had been forced to do so.

Romania – May 24, 1948 (PIR)

The Land, Air and Marine forces are demobilized and placed under a peace regime.

Yugoslavia – May 24, 1948 (PVC)

For the first time *Borba*, the official Yugoslav party daily paper, openly criticizes Andrija Hebrang and Sretan Žujović.

Czechoslovakia – May 25, 1948 (KCA)

A Czechoslovak-Yugoslav trade agreement is announced in Prague.

Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – May 25, 1948 (KCA)

The Soviet Union uses its veto power in the U.N. Security Council, when an

Argentinian motion is presented calling for a sub-committee to hear evidence relating to the governmental changes in Czechoslovakia.

Romania – May 25, 1948 (PIR)

The decision is made by the Council of Ministers to convert the property of former King Mihai I and that of the members of the former royal family to state property.

Yugoslavia – May 25, 1948 (RYE)

The Central Committee formally approves the decision to convene a Party Congress as soon as possible.

Yugoslavia / Soviet Union – May 25, 1948 (HWC)

The absence of a message from Stalin in the Yugoslav press on Tito's birthday is an indicator of the well-kept secret dispute between the Yugoslavs and the Soviet Union.

Germany, Soviet Occupied Zone – May 27, 1948 (KCA)

The German Economic Commission for the Soviet Zone announces the creation of the *Deutsche Emissions- und Girobank*, responsible for regulating note circulation, organizing the payments system, and managing all foreign currency transactions.

Germany, Soviet Occupied Zone – May 29, 1948 (KCA)

The *Tass* Agency in Berlin announces that 72.35% of the electorate has signed a petition for German National Unity.

Bulgaria / Poland – May 30, 1948 (KCA)

A Polish-Bulgarian treaty of friendship, co-operation, and mutual aid is signed in Warsaw.

Romania – May 30-June 1, 1948 (PIR)

The national conference of those responsible for sports affairs takes place in Bucharest. Professional activity is banned, and private tourism associations are dissolved and placed under the patrimony of the National Office of Tourism (ONT).

Finland / Soviet Union – May 31, 1948 (KCA)

The Finnish-Soviet treaty of friendship and mutual assistance comes into force.

June 1948

Hungary – June 1948 (REV)

An agreement to arm and supply the Hungarian Army with Soviet weaponry is signed, heralding a forced pace of expansion of the Hungarian armed forces.

Romania – June 1948 (PIR)

The First Direction for State Security fabricates and systematizes the evidence necessary to arrest leaders of the “Army of God” (Oastea Domnului), a moral missionary orthodox movement for mutual aid formed by Priest Iosif Trifa in 1923 in Transylvania. Some of the leaders of the movement are arrested, including Cornel Rusu from Simeria, Traian Dorz from Beiuș, Ioan Opreș from Călan, Serghie Paraschiv, Eftimie from Moldova, Alexandru Codruț from Nămolosa, Vasile Axinuță from Lasna (Dorohoi), Carlinca from Suceava, Harașniuc from Bukovina, Răcovițeanu.

Hungary – June 1, 1948 (HC)

According to the announcement of the Political Committee of the FKGP, the party supports the nationalization of schools maintained by the churches.

Romania – June 1, 1948 (PIR)

The Romanian government ratifies constitutive acts of the World Health Organization with the headquarters in Geneva.

Yugoslavia – June 2, 1948 (PVC)

The official gazette announces the dismissal of Sretan Žujović from his rank of Colonel-General for "unfriendly and anti-national work which has harmed the interests of the State."

Finland / Soviet Union – June 3, 1948 (KCA)

The Soviet Union reduces the Finnish reparations payments due to be paid to the Soviet Union by 50%, starting July 1, 1948. Furthermore, Finland accepts an offer from the Soviet Government of a \$5,000,000 short-term credit at 2% interest.

Hungary – June 3, 1948 (REV)

A clash between locals and the authorities at Pócspetri, Szabolcs-Bereg-Ugocsa County over nationalization of the local school leads to the killing of a police officer in a brawl outside the village hall. Death sentences are passed by a summary court on the deputy notary of the village for murder and the parish priest for incitement for murder. The second sentence is commuted to life imprisonment. The Communists make use of the incident in their propaganda for nationalization of schools.

Yugoslavia / U.K. – June 3, 1948 (PVC)

In a note to the Yugoslav Government, the United Kingdom demands compensation for nationalized British property. The compensation is considered as a prerequisite for entering into a trade agreement.

Yugoslavia / U.K. – June 5, 1948 (PVC)

Kathleen O'Connor, secretary of the British Legation in Bucharest, is taken into custody at Kotoriba on charges of insulting a Yugoslav border guard. On June 12

the Yugoslav Foreign Ministry decides to expel her from Yugoslavia. She crosses the Yugoslav-Romanian border at Jimbolia on June 14.

Romania – June 6, 1948 (PIR)

Iustinian Marina is selected for Patriarch of the Romanian Orthodox Church.

Czechoslovakia – June 7, 1948 (HC)

Referring to his health conditions, President E. Beneš resigns as the Czechoslovakian Head of State.

Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – June 7, 1948 (KCA)

Ivo Duchacek, chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee of the Czechoslovak National Assembly until the Communist coup d' état in February, reveals in London that in October 1945 an agreement signed between the Soviet Union and Czechoslovakia gave the Soviets absolute control of the Bohemian mines of Joachimsthal.

Hungary / Soviet Union – June 7, 1948 (KCA)

It is announced that the Soviet Government has decided to reduce the amount of Hungarian reparation payments to the Soviet Union by 50%, effective July 1, 1948.

Yugoslavia / Argentina – June 7, 1948 (OEH)

Yugoslavia signs an agreement on economic cooperation with Argentina.

Romania – June 9, 1948 (PIR)

Through a MAN decree, the Romanian Academy is restructured and transformed into the RPR Academy.

Romania – June 9-11, 1948 (PIR)

The CC Plenary of the PMR debates and approves the nationalization of the main means of production (industrial, mining, transportation, banking and insurance enterprises).

Czechoslovakia – June 10, 1948 (KCA)

Gottwald succeeds Beneš as President and nominates Zapotocky as Prime Minister. Since the “February Revolution”, many Czechoslovaks do not approve of the new regime, including former politicians, deputies and army officers, many of whom escape to West Germany, the U.S., Britain and France.

Romania – June 10, 1948 (KCA)

The former King of Romania Mihai I and Princess Anne of Bourbon-Parma marry in Athens.

Romania – June 11, 1948 (PIR)

The Romanian Government recognizes the State of Israel and establishes diplomatic relations.

Hungary – June 12-14, 1948 (HC) (REV)

The First Congress of the Hungarian Workers' Party takes place in Budapest. It approves the program of the party, its structural regulation, and stresses that the ideological base of the party is Marxism-Leninism. It articulates the main objectives of the party. It elects Árpád Szakasits as its Chairman and Mátyás Rákosi as its General Secretary. The official daily of the new party is the *Szabad Nép*. The Social Democrats' *Népszava* continues as the daily of the Free Trade Unions.

Yugoslavia / Soviet Union – June 12, 1948 (HWC)

The Soviet Union sends the Western powers a note proposing that a scheduled conference to settle issues regarding the use of the Danube should not be held in Belgrade as planned, but elsewhere.

Hungary – June 16, 1948 (HC) (REV)

The National Assembly passes the 1948: XXXIII Law about the nationalization of the schools of churches. 6,505 church schools become the property of the state, 18 thousands teachers become employees of the state. Church-state separation and loss of their schools are accepted by most churches due to the pressure on them, but the Catholic Church under Cardinal József Mindszenty resists.

Hungary / Poland – June 16, 1948 (HC)

Led by Prime Minister Lajos Dinnyés, a governmental delegation travels to Warsaw. They sign the Hungarian-Polish treaty of friendship, co-operation and mutual aid.

Romania – June 16, 1948 (PIR)

The trial of the Iași massacres of June 1941 begins; among the defendants are: Gen. Gh. Stavrescu, Constantin Lupu and Dumitru Captaru.

Yugoslavia / Soviet Union / U.K. – June 16, 1948 (HWC)

In a conversation with Peake, Aleš Bebler, the Yugoslav Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, vents his anger at the Soviet government for having suggested a change of venue for the Danube Conference. It makes clear to Charles Peake, British ambassador to Yugoslavia, that there are tensions between the two Communist governments.

Germany, Soviet Occupied Zone – June 18, 1948 (KCA)

Marshal Sokolovsky denounces the separate currency reforms of the Western zones of Germany, prohibits the circulation of the currency in the Soviet zone and in Berlin which “lies in the Soviet zone and forms economically part of it”, and threatens punishment for imports of the currency which will be regarded as economic sabotage. According to Sokolovsky, the Western currency reform was carried out against the wishes and interests of the German people.

Germany, Soviet Occupied Zone – June 19, 1948 (KCA)

The Berlin City Assembly approves a resolution protesting against Marshal Sokolovsky's June 18 proclamation.

Yugoslavia – June 20, 1948 (PVC)

The plenary meeting of the Federal Committee of the Yugoslav People's Front decides to exclude Andrija Hebrang and Sretan Žujović for their hostile and anti-national work which had harmed the interests of the State and the unity and reputation of the People's Front. Žujović's seat is offered to Petar Stambolić, who would later serve as President of the Presidency of Yugoslavia from 1982 to 1983.

Romania – June 21, 1948 (HC)

In Romania the banks, railways, mines and industrial corporations are nationalized.

Soviet Bloc – June 19-23, 1948.

The second conference of the Cominform is held in Bucharest. The organization unanimously condemns the Yugoslav leadership for their anti-Soviet attitude and expels Yugoslavia from the Cominform.

Germany, Soviet Occupied Zone – June 24, 1948

The Soviet Union blocks the Western Allies' railway and road access to West Berlin. The "Berlin Blockade" is unfolding.

Germany / U.K. – June 25, 1948 (KCA)

The British authorities order the complete cessation of all goods and traffic exchanged between the British and Soviet zones of Germany.

U.K. / U.S. – June 26, 1948 (REV)

The United States and Britain establish an air bridge to supply West Berlin.

Yugoslavia / Bulgaria – June 27, 1948 (PVC)

The plenary meeting of the Central Committee of Bulgarian Workers Party unanimously approves the Cominform resolution and instructs its Politburo to organize immediately a country-wide explanatory campaign.

Germany, Soviet Occupied Zone – June 28, 1948 (KCA)

The Anglo-American air service for the provision of supplies to the blockaded Berlin is brought into full operation, with over 100 American aircrafts bringing food provisions, arriving at the Tempelhof airport at intervals of every few minutes.

Yugoslavia / Cominform – June 28, 1948 (KCA)

An announcement of Yugoslavia's expulsion from the Cominform is issued. A statement from the Cominform accuses Tito's government of deviating from Marxism-Leninism, of pursuing a policy of nationalism, of Trotskyism, of hostility

towards the Soviet Union, and of failing to take action to liquidate the Yugoslav kulaks.

Germany, Soviet Occupied Zone / U.N. – June 29, 1948 (KCA)

The Berlin City Council approves an appeal to the United Nations for immediate aid in the city's plight.

Yugoslavia – June 29, 1948 (KCA)

The Central Committee of the Communist Party of Yugoslavia issues a reply to the Cominform statement, refuting the charges contained therein and describing them as lies and invented slander.

Bulgaria / Yugoslavia – June 29, 1948 (WBA)

Bulgarian Government's note No. 6266-I states that the Cominform resolution in no way alters the existing friendly relations between Bulgaria and Yugoslavia.

Yugoslavia / U.K. – June 29, 1948 (PVC)

It is the first time that the South Department of the British Foreign Office deals with the Soviet-Yugoslav conflict in its meeting.

Bulgaria / Czechoslovakia / Hungary / Romania / Yugoslavia / Soviet Union – June 30-August 18, 1948 (PIR)

The International Conference regarding the problems of navigation on the Danube takes place in Belgrade. A new Danube Commission is created, with the headquarters in Budapest, composed of the representatives of Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Romania, Yugoslavia, Ukraine, and the USSR.

Yugoslavia / U.S. – June 30, 1948 (HWC)

The American National Security Council (NSC) accepts the advice given by George F. Kennan and his Policy Planning Staff, encapsulated in the policy statement NSC 18, which is to support Tito if he wishes it.

Yugoslavia / U.S. – June 30, 1948 (CUY)

U.S. Secretary of State George C. Marshall gives instructions to U.S. Diplomatic Missions asking for caution when dealing with the Cominform split.

Yugoslavia / Albania – June 30, 1948 (PVC)

Albania expels all Yugoslav technical advisers from the country within 24 hours.

July 1948

Yugoslavia – July 1948 (KCA)

Mass rallies gather in support of Tito and the Yugoslav Communist Government, against accusations made in light of the Cominform expulsion.

Yugoslavia – July 1948 (ACY)

Bishop Čule of Mostar is sentenced to eleven and a half years imprisonment for conspiracy, of which he serves seven.

Romania – July 1, 1948 (PIR)

The Romanian parliament, MAN, approves law no. 116 for the punishment of sabotage.

Yugoslavia / Albania – July 1, 1948 (WBA)

The Albanian Government renounces all economic agreements, conventions and protocols concluded between Yugoslavia and Albania. On **July 2**, also the protocol on frontier traffic and the agreement on the abolition of visas are, unilaterally, cancelled.

Hungary – July 2, 1948 (HC)

The Hungarian Government establishes, by law, state-controlled centers to govern state corporations.

Romania – July 2, 1948 (PIR)

The State Commission for Planning is created. It takes over the tasks of the Superior Council of the National Economy in designing the general plans for the national economy.

Yugoslavia / Albania – July 2, 1948 (WBA)

The Yugoslav Government instructs its legation in Tirana to seek agreement with the Albanian Government on the formation of mixed commissions to discuss the position of Albanian-Yugoslav companies.

Yugoslavia / U.K. – July 2, 1948 (OEH)

Yugoslavia concludes an agreement on timber exports with the United Kingdom.

Yugoslavia / Albania – July 3, 1948 (WBA)

The Yugoslav Government sends a note condemning the unilateral breach of economic treaties, agreements and conventions by the Albanian government.

Yugoslavia / Czechoslovakia – July 5, 1948 (PVC)

In an outburst of spontaneous sympathy, Yugoslav artists are given a thunderous applause at the *Sokol* Festival in Czechoslovakia.

Poland – July 6-7, 1948 (PSN)

A plenum of the Central Committee of the Polish Workers Party is held to discuss the condemnation of Yugoslavia. Gomulka is said to be unable to attend due to bad health. Other issues discussed at the plenum are the fusion of the Polish Socialist Party and the Polish Workers Party, as well as the economic situation.

Romania – July 6, 1948 (PIR)

The cereal collection regime is formed.

Yugoslavia / Soviet Union – July 6, 1948 (WBA)

A note of the Yugoslav embassy in Moscow states the Yugoslav Government's decision to urge all Yugoslav citizens in the USSR to return to Yugoslavia.

Yugoslavia / U.S. – July 6, 1948 (CUY)

The U.S. State department prepares a report on U.S. policy towards Yugoslavia for the National Security Council. According to the conclusions, "The Department [...] should observe extreme circumspection in discussing the Yugoslav differences with the Cominform. [...] This government would welcome a genuine re-emergence of Yugoslavia as a political personality in its own right. [But] Tito's defiance does not mean that Yugoslavia has 'come over' to the West. Yugoslavia remains a communist state and its negative attitude towards the western democracies is yet unchanged."

Czechoslovakia – July 7, 1948 (KCA)

The Czechoslovak Government orders an investigation into incidents which had occurred the previous day. In Prague, during a parade for the *Sokol* organization, a national association that promotes gymnastics and physical culture, people had cheered for former President Beneš and Marshall Tito. Some even waived British and American flags.

Yugoslavia / Soviet Union – July 7, 1948 (PVC)

In a communiqué published in *Pravda*, the Soviet Communist Party refuses the invitation of the Yugoslav Communist Party to attend its fifth party congress.

Austria – July 8, 1948 (KCA)

It is announced in Vienna that with \$300 million of aid from the U.S., Austria has purchased two U.S. corvettes which have been rebuilt for cargo and will constitute the first unit of a new Austrian merchant fleet.

Romania – July 8, 1948 (PIR)

Industrial offices are replaced with industrial centers, which will run nationalized enterprises.

Hungary / U.S. – July 9, 1948 (LBC)

The State Department condemns Hungary for arresting civilians listening to radio station *Voice of America*.

Soviet Union / Denmark – July 9, 1948 (KCA)

Denmark and the Soviet Union sign a new barter agreement in Moscow.

Yugoslavia – July 9, 1948 (ACY)

Patriarch Gavriilo, accompanied by Metropolitan Josif and Bishop Venjamin of Braničevo, travels to Moscow at the invitation of Patriarch Alexei for the

celebrations of the five hundredth anniversary of the autocephaly of the Moscow patriarchate.

Romania – July 10, 1948 (PIR)

The Secretariat of the CC of the PMR discusses the reorganization of the General Direction of State Security.

Yugoslavia / Hungary – July 10, 1948 (PVC)

Szabad Nép officially states that Hungary will not send a delegation to the fifth party congress of the Yugoslav Communist Party.

Yugoslavia / Hungary – July 10, 1948 (PVC)

A student from Subotica is killed by the Yugoslav Press Attaché Živko Boarov in Budapest.

Poland – July 11, 1948 (KCA)

Joseph Buhler, former Deputy Military Governor of Poland under Hans Frank, who was executed at Nuremberg, is sentenced to death after being found guilty of sanctioning the mass murder of Polish citizens during the Nazi occupation.

Yugoslavia / Hungary – July 13, 1948 (PVC)

Hungary sends a note of protest to Yugoslavia about the murder of a student by the Yugoslav Press Attaché. Yugoslavia complains in its notes of protest of **July 14** and **July 16** about the behaviour of the Hungarian authorities.

Yugoslavia / U.K. – July 13, 1948 (PVC)

The British embassy in Yugoslavia informs the Foreign Office about a demonstration that took place at the University of Belgrade. The demonstrators stood up for the communiqué of the Cominform. The demonstration was dispersed by armed forces.

Bulgaria / Hungary – July 14, 1948 (HC)

Led by Prime Minister Lajos Dinnyés, a government delegation travels to Sofia. The delegation signs a treaty of friendship, co-operation and mutual aid.

Czechoslovakia – July 17, 1948 (KCA)

An announcement is issued that starting on September 1, the Government will handle Czechoslovakia's entire foreign trade.

Romania / Vatican – July 17, 1948 (PIR)

The Romanian Government denounces the Concordat with the Holy See and decides to stop the application of the dispositions mentioned in the act.

Czechoslovakia / Romania – July 19-21, 1948 (PIR)

In Bucharest, Prime Minister Petru Groza and Czechoslovak Prime Minister

Antonin Zapotocky sign the treaty for friendship, co-operation and mutual assistance between Romania and Czechoslovakia.

Yugoslavia – July 19, 1948 (KCA)

The Roman Catholic Bishop of Mostar, Pietro Cule, is sentenced to 11 years of imprisonment by the Mostar provincial court on charges of having organized and assisted the Ustachi (Croat Fascist) organization during the war. It is reported that he pledged guilty to the charges of collaborating with the Italian forces. Eight other priests and nuns are also sentenced to periods from 6 months to 8 years, under the same charges.

Yugoslavia / U.S. – July 19, 1948 (HWC)

The American Government makes accessible the gold of the Kingdom of Yugoslavia, which was frozen at the German invasion of Yugoslavia in the spring of 1941.

Yugoslavia / Soviet Union – July 21, 1948 (LUY)

In his eight-hour opening speech at the fifth party congress of the CPY, Tito summarizes for the Congress the history of the Communist Party of Yugoslavia from its founding in April 1919. It is a carefully constructed review avoiding personal or national extremes and designed to arouse the pride of the party and not offend the Soviet Union. Communist Party representatives from the USSR, Poland, Romania, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria and Albania had declined invitations to attend the Congress.

Poland – July 22, 1948 (KCA)

At a congress in Wroclaw the four main Polish youth organizations (Communist, Socialist, Peasant and Democrat) are fused into a single government-sponsored Union of Polish Youth.

Yugoslavia – July 22, 1948 (CRM)

The Supreme Court of the People's Republic of Croatia sentences Ljubo Miloš and 20 other persons, all members of illegal Crusader resistance groups, to death by hanging, and 23 to death by shooting squad. The sentence is executed on **August 31, 1948.**

Hungary – July 25, 1948 (HC)

It is announced by the Ministry of Interior that a conspiracy in the Ministry of Agriculture has been uncovered. Its leaders are Béla Perneczky, Ernő Ottó and Ernő Solt. The People's court sentences them to life imprisonment.

Yugoslavia / U.K. – July 26, 1948 (KCA)

It is announced in the House of Commons that the government will no longer consider requests for the surrender to the Yugoslav Government of any Yugoslavs

found in Britain or British-controlled territory, who were charged with collaboration with the enemy during the war.

Yugoslavia – July 26, 1948 (CUY)

Borba publishes Yugoslav Vice Premier Edvard Kardelj's six-hour speech on the international situation during the congress of the Yugoslav Communist Party.

Yugoslavia / Hungary – July 26, 1948 (PVC)

The Hungarian police arrest the Yugoslav press attaché in Budapest in connection with the murder of a Yugoslav student of ethnic Hungarian descent.

Yugoslavia / U.S. – July 27, 1948 (CUY)

Tito receives ex-Governor Olsen of California, who is visiting Belgrade privately, and tells him that Yugoslavia would welcome a trade agreement with the United States, if there were no political strings attached

Hungary – July 29, – August 24, 1948 (HC)

The 14th Olympic Games take place in London. The Hungarian athletes earn 10 gold, 5 silver and 13 bronze medals.

Hungary – July 30, 1948 (HC/REV)

President Zoltán Tildy is forced to resign and is kept under house arrest until May 1, 1956. His son-in-law Viktor Csornoky, Hungarian Minister in Cairo, is charged with espionage and sentenced to death. He is executed on **November 15**. Parliament elects Árpád Szakasits as President of the Republic.

Czechoslovakia – July 30, 1948 (KCA)

Because of the investigation into the incidents at the *Sokol* parade, the Czech Government announces it will set up a committee to supervise all sports and gymnastics activities.

Soviet Union / France / U.K. / U.S. – July 30-August 18, 1948 (LBC)

The Danube conference opens in Belgrade with the participation of ten nations. With seven votes to one (the U.S. and the United Kingdom abstained, France voted against), the Soviet proposal on the international control of navigation on the river Danube is passed, which excludes the Western powers from participation. The Western powers do not participate in the signing ceremony. The U.S. State Department accuses the Soviet Union of political and economic "enslavement" of the Danubian peoples and announces that the U.S. does not accept the convention for itself or the U.S. zones of Germany and Austria.

Romania – July 31, 1948 (KCA)

All schools in Romania come under State control.

Yugoslavia / Romania – July 31, 1948 (PVC)

The Romanian Communist daily *Scanteia* publishes an open letter written by Yugoslav Ambassador Golubović, in which he accuses the Yugoslav government of nationalist deviation and anti-Soviet foreign policy. The Ambassador is replaced on September 7 by Radoš Jovanović.

August 1948

Poland – August 1948 (PSN)

The Catholic newspaper *Tygodnik Warszawski* is shut down.

Hungary – August 1, 1948 (HC)

The Margit Bridge of Budapest opens for public traffic.

Romania – August 2, 1948 (PIR)

In reducing the role of the church and clergy, the Romanian Government passes a law for the nationalization of all property of the former church schools.

Hungary – August 3, 1948 (HC)

The National Assembly elects Árpád Szakasits as President.

Bulgaria – August 3, 1948 (KCA)

A decree orders all foreign schools in Bulgaria to close by September 1. The Bulgarian Government denounces the Franch-Bulgarian cultural convention of 1936 on the status of French schools in Bulgaria.

Romania – August 3, 1948 (PIR)

MAN emits Decree no. 175 for the reform of education, through which the entire education system is unified and secularized.

Romania – August 3, 1948 (PIR)

The new law of education decides the transformation of the National Academy of Physical Education (ANEF) into the Institute for Physical Education (IEF) (from 1950 – the Institute for Physical Culture – ICF).

Hungary – August 4, 1948 (HC)

The Hungarian Parliament passes a law on the establishment of the Hungarian Science Board. On August 5, three members of the Hungarian Workers' Party are appointed ministers: János Kádár as Minister of the Interior, László Rajk as Minister of Foreign affairs and István Kossa as Minister of Industry.

In Budapest the congress of the FKGP takes place. It stresses the importance of cooperation and alliance between workers and peasants.

Romania – August 4, 1948 (PIR)

Decree no. 177 of MAN regulates the general regime of religious cults. Priests

become state employees and the church is controlled by the state. The law was meant to ensure freedom of consciousness, equality and the autonomy of cults.

Czechoslovakia – August 5, 1948 (KCA)

The Ministry of Industry announces that 93% of all Czechoslovak industry had been nationalized.

Czechoslovakia / France – August 6, 1948 (KCA)

Czechoslovakia and France sign a series of trade and financial agreements in Paris.

Soviet Union / U.S. – August 9, 1948 (KCA)

Alexander Panyushkin, Soviet Ambassador in Washington, announces that he handed a note to the U.S. State Department from his Government accusing U.S. authorities of having allowed the kidnapping of two Soviet citizens, Mikhail Samarin and Oksana Kosenkina, in New York and demanding their release. The two had been scheduled to return to the USSR on July 31 by means of transport on the S.S. Pobeda. Samarin had voluntarily sought the help of the Federal Bureau of Investigation of the U.S. because he did not want to return to the USSR; Kosenkina's situation and intentions are not clear.

Yugoslavia – August 11-12, 1948 (WBA)

Chief of the General Staff of the Yugoslav Army General Arso Jovanović is killed during the night from August 11 to August 12 while trying to escape to Romania. Branko Petričević is caught by security forces while Vladimir (Peko) Dapčević returns to Belgrade where he hides until August 31. He again attempts to flee the country, but is caught on the Yugoslav-Hungarian frontier by the Yugoslav border patrol on September 2, 1948. Their trial is held in early June, 1950. Their escape is considered to be part of a Soviet attempt to form a Yugoslav government abroad.

Romania – August 12, 1948 (PIR)

The Secretariat of the CC of PMR debates the Doncea case. The creation of the Department of State Control is proposed in the same session, along with a project to organize the Department for the Co-Inhabiting Nationalities.

Soviet Union / Denmark – August 12, 1948 (KCA)

It is announced in Copenhagen that the Danish negotiations on the price of the Soviet barley supplies provided on July 9 broke down due to unacceptable Soviet demands.

Soviet Union / U.S. – August 12, 1948 (KCA)

Oksana Kosenkina jumps out of a window in the Soviet Consulate in New York and is rushed to the hospital with severe injuries.

Romania – August 13, 1948 (KCA)

All banks and credit institutions are dissolved except for the Romanian National

Bank, the joint Romanian-Soviet Bank, and certain other co-operative and professional institutions.

Soviet Union / U.S. – August 13, 1948 (KCA)

The U.S. State Department announces that asylum will be granted to Soviet citizens Samarin and Kosenkina.

Soviet Union / U.S. – August 14, 1948 (KCA)

Ambassador Panyushkin issues a note to the U.S. State Department, demanding that Soviet Consul General Lomakin have more control over the arrangements for the medical care of Kosenkina.

Romania – August 15, 1948 (PIR)

Gheorghe Pintilie is awarded the rank of General Lieutenant of security and is charged with the leadership of the General Direction of the People's Security.

Yugoslavia / Italy – August 16, 1948 (KCA)

The joint Italian-Yugoslav Commission for the delimitation of the new frontier resumes its work after the Yugoslav Government expressed hope that the border situation would be solved in a direct and friendly manner on August 4, 1948.

Yugoslavia / Austria – August 17, 1948 (OEH)

Yugoslavia concludes a trade and payments agreement with Austria.

Romania – August 18, 1948 (PIR)

The Secretariat of the CC of PMR discusses the law for the organization of the Red Cross, price reductions for some products and services, and the appointment of Petru Borilă in the Central Verification Commission.

Hungary – August 19, 1948 (HC)

The inauguration of fresh military officers takes place in the Military Academy.

Poland – August 19, 1948 (KCA)

The Polish Ministry of Justice announces that since the end of the war Polish Courts have issued death sentences on 1,055 German war criminals.

Soviet Union / Afghanistan – August 19, 1948 (KCA)

The conclusion of a Soviet-Afghan trade agreement that remains in effect until September 1949 is announced.

Hungary – August 20, 1948 (HC)

Mátyás Rákosi delivers a speech about the Hungarian Workers' Party's plans for agricultural restructuring in Szeged.

Czechoslovakia – August 20, 1948 (KCA)

The Sokol directorate in Moravia and Sokol officials in other areas are dismissed due to the demonstrations during the Sokol parade in Prague on July 6.

Poland – August 20, 1948 (KCA)

Joseph Buhler is hanged in Cracow.

Yugoslavia / Trieste – August 21-24, 1948 (KCA)

The expulsion of Yugoslavia from the Cominform leads to a schism in the Trieste Communist Party between the pro-Tito and orthodox factions.

Romania – August 22, 1948 (PIR)

The first political detainees are brought to Sighet prison. The most important politicians of the pre-1947 period would be imprisoned here, Sighet becoming the ministerial prison.

Romania / Yugoslavia – August 25, 1948 (KCA)

The Yugoslav Government issues a strong note to Romania protesting the anti-Yugoslav campaign conducted by Romania's press and radio. The note claims that such campaigns are inadmissible in the view of the Yugoslav-Romanian treaty of friendship.

Yugoslavia / Hungary – August 25, 1948 (PVC)

According to British diplomatic sources, the Hungarian government has made its decision to suspend the shipment of reparations to Yugoslavia on instructions of the Soviet Union.

Soviet Union – August 26, 1948 (KCA)

The Presidium of the Supreme Soviet issues a decree granting permission to individual citizens to build and purchase their own homes, either in urban or rural areas. They must fulfill specific requirements and will be subject to State inspection.

Soviet Union – August 27, 1948 (KCA)

Moscow announces that L. Orbeli, a Soviet academician and leading biologist, has been removed from his post at the Soviet Academy of Sciences for failing to place biology "at the service of the vital needs of the Socialist construction". Further complaints about him are that he follows Mendelian biological theory, which is based on heredity rather than hybridization, the theory of the official party line.

Yugoslav / Hungary – August 27, 1948 (KCA)

The Yugoslav Government issues a strong note to Hungary protesting the anti-Yugoslav campaign conducted by Hungary's press and radio. The note claims that such campaigns are inadmissible in light of the Yugoslav-Hungarian treaty of friendship.

Yugoslavia – August 27, 1948 (KCA)

The Supreme Court of Croatia meets in Zagreb and sentences 43 Ustashis (Croat Fascists) to death. 12 others are sentenced to long-term imprisonment.

Romania – August 28, 1948 (PIR)

The General Direction of the People's Security is founded inside the Ministry of Internal Affairs.

Yugoslavia / Hungary – August 28, 1948 (PVC)

The Hungarian press reports a decree suspending the crossing of the Hungarian-Yugoslav frontier at Magyarbóly and Gyékényes.

Yugoslavia / Albania – August 28, 1948 (PVC)

According to British sources, the former Secretary of the Albanian-Yugoslav Cultural Society, Nuri Huta, is arrested and imprisoned in Albania.

Romania – August 30, 1948 (PIR)

Decree no. 221 for the creation and organization of the General Direction of the People's Security is published. The new structure of political repression has the declared purpose of "defending democratic achievements and safe-guarding the security of the People's Republic of Romania against the plots of foreign and internal enemies."

U.S. – August 30, 1948 (LBC)

The second peacetime conscription in U.S. history begins.

Romania – August 31, 1948 (PIR)

The Secretariat of the CC of PMR analyzes the law for the transfer of forests under state property and the report of the Party Commission for the reorganization of the Ministries of Public Works and Communications.

Poland – August 31-September 3, 1948 (PSN)

A plenary meeting of the Central Committee of the Polish Workers Party is held at which Gomulka is removed from the post of Secretary General. Bierut resumes his party membership and assumes Gomulka's post. He holds a speech that condemns nationalist and rightist deviation and calls for the collectivization of agriculture.

Soviet Union – August 31, 1948 (KCA)

Andrei Alexandrovic Zhadnov, Secretary of the Central Committee of the Soviet Communist Party, close co-worker of Stalin and one of the most influential members of the Politburo, dies.

Yugoslavia – August 31, 1948 (KCA)

Belgrade announces a number of changes in the Cabinet. Notably, Kardelj and

Rankovic, who had both been strongly denounced by the Cominform, are promoted.

September 1948

Yugoslavia / U.N. – September 1948 (RYN)

At the third session of the U.N. General Assembly, the Yugoslav delegation fully supports and praises the Soviet Union.

Yugoslavia / U.S. – September 1948 (LKT)

Yugoslavia expresses its wish to purchase oil-drilling equipment in exchange for ores and minerals from the US. The State Department, still awaiting for a “loyal and cooperative attitude” from Yugoslavia, deems the request “unattractive”.

Yugoslavia / U.S. – September 1948 (LBY)

By September 1948, American diplomats in Belgrade are sufficiently convinced of the stability of Tito's Government to argue that Washington should consider the possibilities of pursuing a more active policy towards Yugoslavia that had been thought appropriate hitherto.

Romania – September-November 1948 (PIR)

The members of the National Resistance Movement of Oltenia, led by General Ioan Carlaonț, are arrested.

Romania – September 1, 1948 (PIR)

Major General Alexandru Nikolski (Boris Grunberg), is appointed General Deputy Director in the General Direction for the People's Security.

Yugoslavia – September 1, 1948 (PVC)

Milovan Djilas openly speaks about the ideological rift between the Soviet and the Yugoslav communist parties in front of the Second Proletarian Brigade.

Hungary – September 2, 1948 (HC)

The Political Committee of the Hungarian Workers' Party delivers a proposal on the reconsideration of the party membership and orders a cap on additional entrees (until **March 6, 1949**).

Soviet Union – September 2, 1948 (KCA)

Zhadnov's burial ceremony takes place on the Red Square, with national honors in the presence of Stalin, Molotov and other Soviet leaders.

Czechoslovakia – September 3, 1948 (KCA)

Edward Beneš dies just a few months after his resignation.

Czechoslovakia – September 4, 1948 (KCA)

Vladimir Krajina, former Secretary-General of the Czechoslovak Socialist Party,

who escaped from Czechoslovakia to London in March, is sentenced *in absentia* to 25 years imprisonment in Prague for allegedly supporting the Nazi regime. Krajina denies these charges and declares that he does not take the sentence seriously.

Poland – September 4, 1948 (KCA)

The Polish Communist Party issues a statement calling for President Bierut to resume the active roll he played in Party affairs before he was appointed President.

Poland – September 5, 1948 (KCA)

An announcement is made, proclaiming that Bierut is to succeed Wladyslaw Gomulka as Secretary-General of the party. Among the reasons for his dismissal, Gomulka is cited for disagreeing with the expulsion of Yugoslavia from the Cominform, and for opposing the collectivization of agriculture.

Hungary – September 6, 1948 (HC/REV)

The number 288 009/1948 order of the Ministry of Interior is released on establishing the State Defense Authority (ÁVH) of the Interior Ministry. Its leader is Gábor Péter. Its tasks are extended to cover surveillance of foreigners, borders, air traffic and river policing, banishment, supervision of the police, internment, and the issuance of passports.

Romania – September 6, 1948 (PIR)

The Secretariat of the CC of PMR decides to rename the Superior School of Lecturers of PMR after A. A. Zhdanov.

Romania / UK – September 7, 1948 (KCA)

The British Government sends a note to the Romanian Government protesting the treatment of British interests, affected by the recent Romanian nationalization law, and demanding compensation of British financial claims in connection with this legislation.

Yugoslavia / Albania – September 7, 1948 (WBA)

The Yugoslav Government sends a note of protest against the insulting and inappropriate tone used in the Albanian Government's notes.

Hungary – September 9, 1948 (HC)

President Árpád Szakasits nominates Ferenc Erdei as Minister of State (NPP) and Mihály Farkas (MDP – Hungarian Workers' Party) as Minister of Defense.

Romania – September 9, 1948 (PIR)

Following Decree no. 232, nine private railway enterprises, previously not included in the June 11 law, are nationalized.

Bulgaria – September 10, 1948 (KCA)

Former Tsar Ferdinand I dies.

Hungary – September 12, 1948 (HC)

The reconstructed Southern Connecting Railway Bridge of Budapest is opened to traffic.

Austria – September 13, 1948 (KCA)

The basic food rationing is increased to 2,100 calories daily as proposed by the Austrian Government to the Allied Control Council. The increase is made possible by a good harvest and Marshall aid.

Hungary – September 14, 1948 (HC)

The National Assembly of the National Peasant Party takes place in Budapest. The main objectives of the Party are to further suppress right wing forces, support central planning, develop the movement of cooperatives and raise the standard of living. It reelects Péter Veres as Chairman and Ferenc Erdei as General Secretary.

Soviet Union / France / U.K. / U.S. – September 15, 1948 (LBC)

A disarmament proposal is announced by Deputy Foreign Minister Andrei Vishinsky: The U.S., China, the USSR, France and the United Kingdom should reduce their armed forces by one third in one year, offensive nuclear weapons should be banned, and an organization within the U.N. Security Council should be established to control disarmament and the banishment of nuclear weapons.

Hungary – September 16, 1948 (HC)

József Révai announces that the Hungarian Workers Party suggests sending 1,000 workers' children to high school and an additional 800 young workers to a year long college preparation throughout the year of 1948.

Romania / U.S. – September 16, 1948 (LBC)

The U.S. announces the recall of four members of its diplomatic representation in Bucharest after the Romanian authorities accuse them of taking photographs of a Danube port.

Hungary – September 17, 1948 (HC)

The Minister of Education orders the organization of courses that prepare students for the technical school exit exams.

Romania – September 17, 1948 (PIR)

Alexandru A. Voitinovici is appointed general attorney of the RPR, replacing Gheorghe Stere.

Yugoslavia – September 17, 1948 (KCA)

Belgrade announces that the law liquidating small shops which was passed in April, 1947 has ended most private retail trade in the country.

Romania – September 20, 1948 (KCA)

A decree of the National Assembly in Romania limits the number of church dioceses.

Hungary – September 21, 1948 (HC)

The Ministry of the Interior announces that a plan of sabotage by the Hungarian-American Oil Company is unveiled.

Romania – September 21, 1948 (KCA)

A decree is published that will dissolve and confiscate the property of 220 associations of businessmen and employers registered in Bucharest on grounds that they are representatives of capitalist interests.

Bulgaria / U.S. – September 24, 1948 (LBC)

The U.S. condemns Bulgaria for the systematic, ruthless obliteration of Bulgarian democracy. The declaration comes in response to a Bulgarian accusation that the U.S. is excluding Bulgaria from the U.N., despite the fact that it had kept the terms of the peace treaty conscientiously.

Hungary – September 24, 1948 (HC)

The number 9960/1948 government order is published. It is about the nationalization of the Hungarian-American Oil Company and the MAORT Gas Selling Company.

Yugoslavia / U.K. – September 24, 1948 (LBY)

The implications for British military planning concerning the Soviet-Yugoslav conflict are subsequently put before the Chief of Staff in a JIC paper submitted on 24 September. The immediate priority seems to be to coordinate any response with the Americans. If the dispute proved to be genuine, then it will be the United States and not Britain which has the wherewithal to assist Tito in maintaining the Yugoslav state as an independent entity

Hungary – September 25-26, 1948 (HC)

The National Education Assembly of the Hungarian Workers' Party takes place in Budapest. József Révai declares that people's democracy is a station in the transition from capitalism to Socialism.

Hungary / U.S. – September 26, 1948 (LBC)

Hungary expels two U.S. businessmen, Ruedemann and Bannantine, the leaders of the Hungarian-American Oil Company.

Yugoslavia / U.K. – September 26, 1948 (PVC)

Tito has a three-hour long conversation with British Labour Party MP Koni Zilliachus.

Yugoslavia / Switzerland – September 27, 1948 (OEH)

Yugoslavia signs a trade and compensation agreement with Switzerland.

Yugoslavia / Albania – September 28, 1948 (PVC)

Yugoslavia informs the Albanian government that it no longer protects Albania's interests towards third countries.

Yugoslavia – September 30, 1948 (PVC)

Both houses of the Yugoslav parliament unanimously adopt a resolution about supporting Tito and the Yugoslav leadership.

October 1948

Poland – October 1948 (PSN)

Minister of Food Supply Włodzimierz Lechowicz and his deputy Alfred Jarozewicz are arrested for working in non-Communist organizations during the war, even though it was under Communist instructions.

Yugoslavia / U.S. – October 1948 (LKT)

In a meeting with Eric Johnson, an American motion picture industry official visiting Yugoslavia, Tito declares that the breach with the Cominform can be healed only if the Kremlin admits it has erred.

Poland – October 1, 1948 (KCA)

An account of the progress made in the reconstruction of Warsaw, which was almost entirely destroyed at the end of the war, is given in *The Times* along with the Polish Government's long-term plans to rebuild it.

Romania – October 1, 1948 (PIR)

The Assembly for the unification of the Greek-Catholic Church with the Romanian Orthodox Church takes place in Cluj. 61 delegations from 22 districts, representing 423 parishes, participate.

Yugoslavia / Finland – October 1, 1948 (OEH)

Yugoslavia signs a trade and payments agreement with Finland.

Czechoslovakia – October 3, 1948 (KCA)

Czechoslovak Minister of Trade Gregor announces that an agreement has been signed with Moscow relating to the second year of the five-year Soviet-Czechoslovak trade pact.

Hungary – October 3, 1948 (HC)

The reconstructed railroad track between Budapest and Miskolc opens.

Czechoslovakia – October 6, 1948 (KCA)

The Law for the Defense of the People's Republic is passed in Czechoslovakia.

Romania – October 6, 1948 (PIR)

The Secretariat of the CC of PMR debates the plan for the celebration of the 30th anniversary of the founding of Comsomol, the proposals to organize a week of Romanian-Soviet friendship, a decree on professional education, the freezing of Romanian gold in Switzerland, the nationalization of private hospitals and cinemas, and a law regarding superior schools.

Yugoslavia / Poland – October 6, 1948 (WBA)

Z. Majeovski, president of the Polish Delegation to the Permanent Polish-Yugoslav Commission for Economic Cooperation, informs Tadija Popović, president of the Yugoslav delegation, on Warsaw's intention to postpone indefinitely the meeting of the permanent commission. The permanent commission never meets again.

Hungary – October 7, 1948 (HC)

The Hungarian Government signs an agreement with the Reformed Church, according to which priests receive salaries from the government. The church may run four religious high schools, and four theology colleges.

Romania – October 7, 1948 (PIR, KCA)

The Machine and Tractors Stations (SMT) are organized through decree. Also by decree, the Romanian Ministry of Trade and Industries is divided into two separate ministries, that of Foreign Trade and that of Trade and Food.

Romania – October 9, 1948 (PIR)

Seven military tribunals which would function annexed to the command of Military Regions 1, 2, and 3, 2nd Infantry Division, 4th Infantry Division, 'Horia, Cloșca and Crișan' Division and the Commandment of the Fluvial Forces, are organized.

Soviet Union / U.K. – October 9, 1948 (LBC)

Former British Prime Minister Winston Churchill calls upon the West to deal with the Soviet Union while it (the West) still has a nuclear monopoly. According to Churchill, "nothing stands between Europe today and complete subjugation to communist tyranny, but the atomic bomb in American possession." He calls on the Soviet Union to release the satellite states in Central and Eastern Europe.

Czechoslovakia / Hungary – October 12, 1948 (HC)

The Czechoslovak Council of Ministers gives back the citizenship and civil rights to the members of the Hungarian minority living in the country (decree 254/1948).

Romania – October 12, 1948 (PIR)

In the Political Bureau, Romania's membership application to the U.N. is discussed.

Soviet Union / U.S. – October 12, 1948 (LBC)

The U.S. turns down Vishinsky's proposal on disarmament (**September 15.**).

Yugoslavia / Romania – October 14, 1948 (WBA)

The Romanian Embassy in Belgrade sends a note to Yugoslavia announcing the expulsion of Yugoslav teachers from Romania.

Hungary – October 15, 1948 (HC)

The government asks the Polish Government to represent Hungarian interests in countries where there is no Hungarian representation.

Czechoslovakia – October 15, 1948 (HC)

The first Five-Year Plan is approved in Czechoslovakia.

Yugoslavia – October 15-19, 1948 (PVC)

The trial of Andrija Lončarić and his collaborators takes place. They are accused of planning a conspiracy with the Chetniks in order to help King Petar back to the throne. Lončarić is sentenced to death.

Romania – October 19, 1948 (PIR)

The Synod of the Romanian Orthodox Church approves the Act of Union with the Greek-Catholic Church.

Romania / Hungary – October 19, 1948 (PIR)

The project of the Convention regarding the Hungarian estates in Romania and that of the Cultural Accord with Hungary are discussed.

Romania / Yugoslavia – October 19, 1948 (PVC)

Scanteia publishes the latest note of the Romanian Government, withdrawing Romanian teachers from the Banat region, because of the nationalistic and chauvinistic tendencies in Yugoslavia.

Soviet Union – October 24, 1948 (KCA)

The Soviet Council of Ministers signs a decree launching a large-scale program of afforestation and irrigation designed to protect the wealthiest agricultural areas of the USSR.

Yugoslavia / Hungary – October 25, 1948 (PVC)

According to Yugoslav charges, the Hungarian secret police broke into the office of the Yugoslav news agency, Tanjug, arrested Dušan Devedjić and tried to persuade him to spy for the Hungarian authorities.

Romania – October 26, 1948 (PIR)

Romania and the People's Democratic Republic of Korea establish diplomatic relations at the level of embassy.

Yugoslavia / Hungary – October 26, 1948 (WBA)

Vaso Jovanović, Yugoslav Secretary of Legation and Chargé d'Affaires in Budapest is expelled from Hungary by the Hungarian Foreign Ministry.

Austria / Soviet Union – October 27, 1948 (KCA)

The Austrian Government announces that the Soviet Government has demanded the entire railway rolling stock in the Soviet zone of Austria as war reparation.

Romania – October 28, 1948 (PIR)

Reluctant Uniate bishops are interned with mandatory domicile.

Hungary / Soviet Union – October 28, 1948 (HC)

Hungary and the Soviet Union sign an agreement about scholarship programs for Hungarian students in Soviet universities.

Hungary – October 28-29, 1948 (HC)

The National Assembly of the FKGP takes place in Balatonkenese. It suggests the reorganization of the Hungarian National Independence Front based on the worker-peasant alliance. It suggests further attention to the restructuring of the agriculture. It supports the interior and the foreign policy of the government.

Yugoslavia / Hungary – October 29, 1948 (PVC)

Thirteen employees of the Yugoslav legation in Budapest are expelled from Hungary on short notice.

November 1948**Yugoslavia / Greece / U.N. – November 1948 (SGY)**

The U.N. General Assembly votes to establish a Conciliation Committee in order to assist Greece and its three northern neighbours settle their differences and resume normal diplomatic relations.

Romania / Soviet Union – November 1, 1948 (KCA)

Romania and the Soviet Union sign an economic agreement that will set up two joint Romanian-Soviet companies, one to produce tractors and the other to produce chemicals.

Romania – November 2, 1948 (PIR)

The law regarding the nationalization of cinematographic industry and the regulation of commerce with cinematographic products is promulgated.

Romania / US – November 2, 1948 (PIR, KCA)

The trial of the group led by Max Auschnitt, Vice-President of the association 'Friends of America' begins. The set-up is part of a scheme, ordered by Nikolski, regarding the American involvement in the organization of a clandestine government. Max Auschnitt is judged by the Military Tribunal in Bucharest and condemned in absence for high treason, insurrection, plot with treacherous aim, undermining constitutional order and rebellious attempts. The sentence is forced labor for life, civic degradation, and the confiscation of estates.

U.S. – November 2, 1948 (HC)

American President Harry S. Truman is reelected.

Poland – November 3, 1948 (PSN)

At a joint meeting of the Central Committee of the Polish Workers Party and the Central Executive Committee of the Polish Socialist Party, it is decided that the unification congress be held on December 8. A report on the purging of party ranks is reportedly read.

Romania – November 3, 1948 (PIR)

Private hospitals and cinemas are nationalized.

Poland – November 5- 19, 1948 (PSN)

Six Socialist Party activists are tried before a military court for trying to overthrow 'the system'. This sets the stage for the liquidation of the Socialist Party and the unification of the workers movement.

Poland / Yugoslavia – November 5, 1948 (KCA)

The newspaper *Borba*, organ of the Yugoslav Communist Party, announces that the publication and translation of Yugoslav books has been discontinued in Poland and that the showing of Yugoslav films has been banned by the Film Polski Organization, violating the Polish-Yugoslav cultural agreement of **May 5, 1948**.

Czechoslovakia – November 6, 1948 (KCA)

The Czechoslovak Communist organ *Rude Pravo* announces that in the future no new members will be accepted into the Communist Party except after a probationary period, that some current members would be lowered to the status of candidates, and that every person's membership is subject to strict review.

Austria / US – November 10, 1948 (KCA)

Washington announces that the Economic Co-operation Administration has so far released to the Austrian Government \$33,052,000 of Marshall Aid funds.

Yugoslavia – November 11-16, 1948 (PVC)

The congress of the Slovenian Communist Party takes place in Ljubljana. Some Slovenian delegates from Trieste and Carinthia also participate. Several speeches deal with the international situation.

Soviet Union – November 12, 1948 (KCA)

The Soviet Council of Ministers issues a decree appointing General Sergei Shtemenko as Chief of General Staff, succeeding Marshal Alexander Vassilievsky.

Soviet Union / U.S. – November 13, 1948 (LBC)

The U.N. Security Council votes against Vishinsky's proposal on disarmament (**September 15**).

Yugoslavia / U.K. – November 13, 1948 (PVC)

The British Embassy in Belgrade learns that Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs, Vladimir Velebit, has been dismissed.

Romania – November 15, 1948 (PIR)

The National Bank of Romania is reorganized and renamed the State Bank of the RPR.

Yugoslavia / U.S. – November 18, 1948 (CUY)

The Central Intelligence Agency prepares its estimate on the Trend of Soviet-Yugoslav Relations.

Hungary / Czechoslovakia – November 20, 1948 (HC)

Hungary and Czechoslovakia form a long-term economic agreement. The Institution of Hungarian Workers' Movement opens in Budapest.

Romania – November 20, 1948 (PIR)

Doctor Iosif Capotă and Alexandru Dejeu, anti-communist fighters in the Apuseni Mountains and on the Drăgan Valley, are arrested.

Czechoslovakia / Yugoslavia – November 21, 1948 (PVC)

The Society of Friends of Tito-Yugoslavia is renamed as the Society of the Friends of Yugoslavia and Czechoslovakia. The new organization is headed by Deputy Prime Minister Siroky.

Czechoslovakia – November 23, 1948 (KCA)

It is announced in Prague that Zlin, seat of the famous Bata shoe factories, will be renamed Gottwaldov from **January 1, 1949** onwards, after President of the Republic Klement Gottwald.

Soviet Union / U.K. – November 25, 1948 (KCA)

Sir Henry Dale, former President of the Royal Society, announces that he has resigned his honorary membership of the Soviet Academy of Sciences in protest of the dismissal of eminent Russian scientists for their adherence to so called bourgeois and reactionary scientific principles, notably in the case of Academician Orbeli.

Hungary – November 26, 1948 (HC)

The National Assembly passes the 1948:XLIII Law about the complete equality of women.

Yugoslavia – November 26, 1948 (CUY)

Tito delivers a speech before the closing session of the Croatian Communist Party Congress and another one at his visit to the Trbovlje coal mines in Slovenia. In

both speeches, he emphasizes economic difficulties and blames the lack of Socialist help.

Czechoslovakia – November 28, 1948 (HC)

In Czechoslovakia a law is passed that enables the return of those Hungarians to Slovakia who were earlier relocated into the Sudetenland.

Romania – November 29-30, 1948 (PIR)

The national Conference of the National People's Party elects the CC and the Executive Bureau.

Hungary – November 30-December 5, 1948 (HC)

The 2nd World Congress of the Democratic Women takes place in Budapest.

December 1948

Romania – December 1, 1948 (PIR)

Through Decree no. 358, the Romanian Church United with Rome is abolished. All Greek-Catholic dioceses and religious communities are disbanded, and their properties taken over by the state.

Yugoslavia / Belgium / Luxembourg – December 3, 1948 (OEH)

Yugoslavia signs a trade agreement with Belgium and Luxembourg.

Hungary – December 4, 1948 (HC)

Minister of Finance Miklós Nyárádi, sent abroad on an official visit, resigns from his office and announces that he will not return to Hungary. The Ministry of Finance is temporarily taken over by Ernő Gerő.

Romania – December 6, 1948 (PIR)

Under the direction of Securitate General Al. Nikolski, the process of reeducating political detainees begins in Pitești prison, whereby victims of repression were compelled to become torturers. Until the system was ended in 1952, 780 students were tortured and another 30 killed as part of the "Pitești phenomenon."

Austria / France / Soviet Union / U.K. / U.S. – December 7, 1948 (KCA)

Austrian Ministers in London, Washington, Moscow and Paris issue identical notes to the Governments requesting the continuation of negotiations on the Austrian peace treaty in order to liberate Austria from the occupation dividing the country into four zones.

Austria / France / U.K. / U.S. – December 8, 1948 (KCA)

The British, U.S., and French Governments inform the Austrian Ministers in their countries of their sympathetic consideration of the request and willingness to resume talks as long as the representatives deem that talks can be productive.

Hungary – December 9, 1948 (HC)

The Economic High Council prepares a proposal about the creation of a Centre of Heavy Industry.

Hungary – December 10, 1948 (HC)

The President names István Dobi (FKGP) as new Prime Minister. Deputy-Prime Minister is Mátyás Rákosi (Hungarian Workers' Party - MDP), State Minister: Ferenc Erdei (NPP), Interior: János Kádár (MDP), Construction and Public Labor: József Darvas (NPP), Agriculture: István Csala (FKGP), Justice: István Ries (MDP), Defense: Mihály Farkas (MDP), Industry: István Kossa (MDP), Trade: Sándor Rónai (MDP), Foreign Affairs: László Rajk (MDP), Finance: Ernő Gerő (MDP), temporarily: Religion and Education: Gyula Ortutay (FKGP)

Czechoslovakia – December 12, 1948 (KCA)

The Czechoslovak Cabinet approves a bill that will regulate the status of Czechoslovak lawyers.

Hungary – December 12, 1948 (HC)

The Petőfi Military Academy opens in Budapest.

Romania / Hungary – December 12, 1948 (HC)

The State Hungarian People's Opera opens in Kolozsvár.

Romania / Yugoslavia – December 12, 1948 (PIR)

A resolution of the Political Bureau of the CC of PCR is published. The document denounces "the treacherous clique from the leadership of the Yugoslav Communist Party", and attacks Zionism, described as a "nationalist and reactionary political movement of the Jewish bourgeoisie". It also proclaims the fight against the chauvinism of minorities inside the country.

Romania / India – December 14, 1948 (PIR)

Romania and India establish diplomatic relations at the level of legation.

Hungary – December 14, 1948 (HC)

The government signs an agreement with the Lutheran Church. The priests receive pay from the government, and the church can run a religious high school as well as a theology college.

Bulgaria / Belgium / France / The Netherlands / Switzerland / U.K. – December 15, 1948 (KCA)

An agreement between the Bulgarian Government and representatives of bondholders in France, Belgium, the Netherlands, Switzerland and the United Kingdom, on resuming the service on the Bulgarian external debt, is announced.

Poland – December 15-21, 1948 (PSN)

The fusion congress of the Polish Socialist Party and the (Communist) Polish Workers Party is held in Warsaw. The new Polish United Workers Party is mostly a continuation of the Polish Workers Party, its membership drawing about one million from the Workers Party, and about half of that from the Socialist Party.

Hungary – December 16, 1948 (HC)

Twelve parliamentary representatives of the FKGP resign as deputies.

Austria / Soviet Union – December 18, 1948 (KCA)

The Soviet Union expresses its willingness to resume negotiations on the Austrian peace treaty.

Hungary – December 18, 1948 (HC)

A law is passed organizing and regulating the agricultural collectives.

Austria – December 19, 1948 (KCA)

The 800 year-old St. Stephen's Cathedral is reopened in Vienna after being heavily damaged in the war.

Hungary – December 19, 1948 (HC)

The Hungarian Alliance of Lawyers forms. Its chairman is István Ries.

Austria – December 20, 1948 (KCA)

The first post-war High Mass is celebrated at St. Stephen's Cathedral in Vienna; the ceremony is widely broadcasted.

U.N. – December 20, 1948 (REV)

The United Nations adopts the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Romania – December 22-24, 1948 (PIR)

The Plenary of the CC of PMR takes place, discussing the "tasks which lay ahead of the syndicates in the present period," trade unions representing "the main transmission belt between the party and the proletarian mass" and helping the party "in its efforts of mobilizing and educating the working class." Party activity among the youth is also addressed, "the unique organization of the working youth" being destined "to become a school of constructors of socialism and communism." On the same occasion, the law project for the budget and state plan for the year 1949, the new salary system, and the collective labor contract are discussed.

Hungary – December 23, 1948 (HC) (REV)

Cardinal József Mindszenty, the Archbishop of Esztergom is arrested on charges for disloyalty, plans for toppling the Government, spying, and currency trafficking. His secretary was arrested previously, on **November 19** and several searches had been carried out of the Primate's Palace in Esztergom. Mindszenty forcefully

opposed the creation of a communist dictatorship since 1945, leading those fighting for freedom of worship, civil values and national independence, while symbolizing an anachronistic retention of church influence on the state and in society.

Yugoslavia / U.K. – December 23, 1948 (KCA)

Three trade agreements, concerning short-term trade, compensation for nationalized and expropriated British property in Yugoslavia, and a financial and property agreement are signed in London between Britain and Yugoslavia.

Yugoslavia – December 27, 1948 (KCA)

In an address to the Yugoslav National Assembly, Tito accuses the Eastern European countries of violating their economic agreements with Yugoslavia and of instituting a virtual boycott of the country. He threatens them, claiming that if the countries violate their agreements, Yugoslavia will be forced to trade with capitalist countries to obtain the equipment needed for her industrialization.

Yugoslavia / Soviet Union – December 27, 1948 (WBA)

The Mutual Trade Exchange Protocol between Yugoslavia and the USSR for 1949 is signed in Moscow. The Soviet government reduces its economic exchange with Yugoslavia for political reasons.

Romania – December 28, 1948 (PIR)

MAN adopts the general economic plan for the year 1949.

Yugoslavia – December 28, 1948 (PVC)

Yugoslav Foreign Minister Edvard Kardelj delivers a speech during the annual debate of the federal budget. He blames the Western imperialist powers for the current world situation, but does not deny that Yugoslavia's relations with the other people's democracies have deteriorated.

Poland – December 29, 1948 (PSN)

The government decides to end food rationing as of January 1, 1949.

Yugoslavia / India – December 29, 1948 (RYN)

Yugoslavia signs its first trade agreement with India.

Hungary – December 30, 1948 (HC)

Electric public lights are installed in the 250th village. This process is part of the Three-Year Plan.

Romania / Soviet Union – December 31, 1948 (PIR)

Two agreements between RPR and the USSR, regarding the supply and transportation of Soviet troops on the territory of Romania, are concluded.

Hungary – 1949 (HC)

According to the reports of the Central Statistical Office, the number of the active

workforce is 3,910,000 people. There are 25,000 co-operative members. Of those, 10 thousand are in agriculture. The national income is 37,703 million forints. Of this, 18,800 is in industry, 2,266 is in construction, 9,883 is in agriculture, 1,504 is in cargo transportation, 4,876 is in trade.

The number of employees working in the industry: 520,127 in factories, 11,060 in collective farms. 180,732 people are employed in the small industry, with 187,732 assistants. There are 45,777 industrial students.

January 1949

Bulgaria – 1949 (OSA)

The First Five-Year plan (1949-1953) is issued and completed one year ahead, by 1952. The main goals are the increase of agricultural and industrial production and its collectivization. Also, there is a focus on the improvement of the material and cultural life of Bulgarian workers.

Hungary – January 1, 1949 (HC)

An official census begins in Hungary. The number of inhabitants: 9,204,799 people. There are 1,081 women for every 1,000 men. The 10 largest cities (in thousands): Budapest 1590, Debrecen 110, Miskolc 109, Szeged 86, Pécs 79, Kecskemét 59, Győr 57, Hódmezővásárhely 49, Nyíregyháza 48, Szombathely 47.

Poland – January 1, 1949 (PSN)

Food rationing is stopped, coupons for edible fats are introduced which provide purchase priority. State owned real estate is replaced by state farms.

Romania – January 1, 1949 (PIR)

The General Economic Plan for 1949 is published. A law is passed on the organization of state social insurances.

Hungary – January 3, 1949 (HC)

The Academy of Foreign Affairs opens in Budapest.

Soviet Union / France / U.K. / U.S. – January 3, 1949 (KCA)

The British, U.S. and French Ambassadors in Moscow hand identical notes to the Soviet Government stating that the Western Powers have fulfilled the Foreign Ministers agreement reached in Moscow in April 1947, which called for the repatriation of all German prisoners of war by the end of 1948. The notes inquire whether the USSR has done the same.

Yugoslavia / Bulgaria – January 3, 1949 (PVC)

The daily organ of the Bulgarian Communist Party publishes an article on the formation of an organization of Yugoslavian citizens living in Bulgaria. The article has a sharp anti-Titoist edge.

Hungary – January 4, 1949 (REV)

Talks begin between the Roman Catholic Conference of Bishops and the Government on normalizing state-church relations. Previous agreements had been reached with the Lutheran and Calvinist churches on containing their activities in return for state financial support. On January 7, the Pope forbids the discussions.

Soviet Union – January 5, 1949 (KCA)

The Soviet Tass Agency issues a statement saying that the overwhelming majority of German prisoners of war had been repatriated, and that the process would be completed in 1949.

Soviet Bloc – January 5-8, 1949 (PIR) (MMS)

The Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (COMECON) is founded in Moscow. Member states: Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Poland, Romania, the Soviet Union. Albania joined the organization in February, 1949, the GDR in 1950. The Comecon is tasked with coordinating economic cooperation among the states of the Eastern Bloc.

The establishment of the organization is publicly announced on January 25, 1949.

Soviet Union / U.K. – January 6, 1949 (KCA)

The Admiralty announces that the Soviet Union has agreed to return eleven British warships lent to the Soviet Union in 1944.

Poland / Vatican – January 8, 1949 (KCA)

The Vatican announces that Pope Pius XII has nominated Stefan Wyszynski, Bishop of Lublin, as Archbishop of Gniezo and Poznan and Primate of Poland in succession to Hlond.

U.S. – January 10, 1949 (LBC)

President Truman requests from Congress the largest peacetime military budget (\$14.268 billion) in U.S. history.

Hungary / U.S. – January 11, 1949 (KCA/LBC)

The U.S. turns down Hungary's request for the Crown of Saint Stephen. Hungary ties the release of the Hungarian-U.S. Oil Company's former director, Robert Vogeler to the return of the Holy Crown. Vogeler was arrested and sentenced for alleged sabotage. U.S. military authorities in Frankfurt state that the ancient crown of St. Stephen, the 950 year old historic symbol of Hungarian sovereignty, is held at the Military Government's art-collecting center at Munich, pending a decision by the U.S. State Department, after the U.S. Military found it in a salt mine in Austria.

Poland – January 11, 1949 (KCA, PLC)

The former German territories occupied by Poland since the end of the war are officially incorporated into the Polish Republic by a law fusing the “recovered territories” with the rest of the country.

After the exchanges of populations and relocations, the population of Poland is 22.4 million, 93.7% of which is Polish.

Hungary – January 12-14, 1949 (HC)

The Parliament passes the 1949:II-IV Law about the elimination of the administrative courts, about the supervision of the patent courts and about the (sales) apprentices.

Romania – January 12, 1949 (KCA)

The Romanian National Assembly passes a law for the creation of People’s Councils in villages, towns, districts and countries.

Czechoslovakia – January 13, 1949 (KCA)

It is announced that all new judges, advocates and notaries will be required to pass a political examination in Marxist-Leninist doctrine before being admitted to the legal profession.

Finland / U.K. – January 13-26, 1949 (KCA)

Finland and Britain reach a trade agreement for 1949, and express hope to further expand mutual trade.

U.S. / NATO – January 14, 1949 (LBC)

The State Department announces that the U.S. will join a North-Atlantic security alliance to keep Soviet threats from undermining “the efforts we and others made to promote international economic recovery”.

Romania – January 14, 1949 (KCA)

The Romanian National Assembly passes a law introducing the death penalty for crimes against the State. Hitherto only crimes of high treason during war were susceptible to the death penalty.

Poland / U.K. – January 14, 1949 (LBC)

Great Britain and Poland announce the largest commercial agreement signed by an Eastern European nation after the war: a trade turnover of over USD one billion over five years. Great Britain takes the Soviet Union’s place as Poland’s largest commercial partner. Poland is to export bacon, eggs, poultry, fish, berries, fruit, cheese, butter, lard and other foodstuffs to Great Britain and purchases wool, rubber, crude oil, semi finished goods, copper products, textile dye and other finished goods and productive equipment from England. – Great Britain releases 200 million dollars worth of Polish assets frozen during the war. Poland deposits USD 200 million to pay in one month for its British debt originating from the

interwar period and pledges to remit 4% of its proceeds from British exports to compensate the owners of nationalized British property.

Soviet Union – January 15, 1949 (CWC)

The Soviet Union launches the “Peace Offensive” propaganda campaign. The campaign emphasizes the American responsibility for rising international tensions and states that Stalin is willing to meet with Truman one-to-one to resolve international conflicts.

Hungary – January 16, 1949 (HC)

In his article “Some Problems of People’s Democracy”, Mátyás Rákosi declares that people’s democracy fulfills the role of the dictatorship of the proletariat.

Romania – January 17, 1949 (PIR)

The Central Committee Secretariat of the PMR discusses the measures necessary for the organization of the Party Plenary, the institution of the State Commission for the application of the law of popular councils, and the organization of the Chancellery of the Secretariat.

Yugoslavia / U.K. – January 17, 1948 (HWC)

It is agreed in a meeting that takes place in 10 Downing Street, that long-term trade negotiations should be speeded up by British ambassador Charles Peake in Belgrade.

Yugoslavia – January 17-22, 1949 (PVC)

The congress of the Serbian Communist Party takes place in Belgrade.

Hungary – January 19, 1949 (KCA)

Prior to the trial of Cardinal Mindszenty in Budapest, which is to start on February 3, the Hungarian Government issues a list of ‘confessions’ the Cardinal made on charges of high treason, conspiracy against the State, and black marketeering.

Hungary / US – January 20, 1949 (HC)

The People’s Court ends the trial of the Hungarian-American Oil Company. It changes the verdict of general manager Simon Papp from death penalty to life imprisonment. The so-called Yellow Book is published, containing the documents of the Mindszenty-case.

Poland – January 20, 1949 (PSN) (KCA)

Gomulka is replaced as Deputy Prime Minister by Alexander Zawadski. Minister of Public Administration Osobka-Morawski is replaced by the Communist Wladyslaw Wolski.

Romania – January 20, 1949 (PIR)

The session of the CC Secretariat of the PMR debates the law projects for the salaries of civil servants and for the organization of ministries.

Yugoslavia – January 21, 1949 (KCA)

At the congress of the Serbian Communist Party in Belgrade, Tito strongly criticizes the anti-Yugoslav campaigns that are being carried out by other socialist countries.

Hungary – January 22, 1949 (HC)

A law is passed on the creation of the National Work Health Institution.

Romania – January 22, 1949 (PIR)

The Police and the Gendarmerie are abolished and replaced with the Militia, placed under the Ministry of Internal Affairs. General Director of the new institution is Pavel Cristescu.

Romania – January 24, 1949 (KSA)

Romania and the Soviet Union sign a trade agreement for the year 1949, with goods amounting up to 465 million rubles. This is two and a half times more than the amount of trade in 1948.

Romania / Poland – January 24-26, 1949 (PIR)

During an official visit of a Polish government delegation in Bucharest, Prime Ministers Petru Groza and Josef Cyrankiewicz sign a treaty (on January 26, 1949) of friendship, collaboration and mutual assistance between Romania and Poland.

Germany, Soviet Occupied Zone – January 25-28, 1949 (PLC)

At the first congress of the SED in the Soviet occupational zone of Germany the SED is bolshevized. The principle of democratic centralism is introduced and purges will begin attacking social democrats.

Yugoslavia / Greece / U.K. – January 25, 1949 (PVC/HWC)

An informal meeting takes place between Deputy Foreign Minister Aleš Bebler and British Ambassador Charles Peake. The British suggest that Yugoslav and Greek representatives in Paris conduct their own informal meeting. Bebler gives a non-committal reply, but later, possibly at Peake's instigation, the Yugoslavs do attempt a secret prise de contract with the Greeks some time in March 1949, with no concrete results.

U.S. – January 26, 1949 (LBC)

Secretary of State Dean Acheson declares at a press conference that the Atlantic Alliance will preserve the right of Congress to declare war, but makes it “absolutely clear in advance, that any attack affecting our national security would be met with overwhelming force”.

Austria / Hungary – January 27, 1949 (KCA)

An Austrian-Hungarian trade agreement is signed in Vienna under which Austria will supply \$3,270,000 worth of U.S. cotton, bought out of its Marshall Aid allocation, in exchange for Hungarian deliveries of 20,000 tons of rye and 3,000 tons of sunflower oil.

Czechoslovakia – January 28, 1949 (KCA)

Former Deputy Chief of Staff of the Czechoslovak Army, General Heliodor Pika, is sentenced to death on charges of military treason, espionage and abuse of official authority.

Romania – January 28, 1949 (PIR)

The CC Secretariat of PMR discusses the self-dissolution of the National People's Party, the abolition of PNL-Brătianu, PNL-Bejan and PSD-Titel Petrescu, as well as the creation of the Information Section of the Party.

Soviet Union / Belgium / France / Luxembourg / The Netherlands / U.K. – January 28, 1949 (LBC)

The United Kingdom, France, Belgium, Holland and Luxembourg announce the establishment of the Council of Europe. According to the Soviet Foreign Ministry it is a step towards new aggression in Europe and a breach of peace policy.

Yugoslavia – January 28-30, 1949 (YPH) (PLC)

The second session of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Yugoslavia adopts a motion to speed up collectivization by establishing agricultural collectives. As a result of forced collectivization Yugoslav agriculture collapses.

Hungary – January 29, 1949 (HC)

The last convention of the National Committee takes place in Budapest. It declares the dissolution of the Committee.

Soviet Union / Norway – January 29, 1949 (KCA)

The Soviet Ambassador in Norway hands the Norwegian Government a note requesting Norway to clarify its position on the proposed Atlantic Pact, drawing attention to the fact that Norway and the Soviet Union have a common frontier.

Soviet Union / U.S. – January 30, 1949 (LBC)

Stalin proposes a disarmament agreement, an anti-war pact, and a stop to the blockade of West Berlin. Tom Connally, member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, and Chairman of the Congress Foreign Relations Committee Sol Bloom, receive the offer favorably. President Truman seems ready to receive Stalin in Washington, although Stalin would rather negotiate in Moscow or Eastern Europe.

February 1949

Yugoslavia – February 1949 (PLC)

The Western powers end the economic blockade of Yugoslavia.

Hungary – February, 1949 (HC)

Mass demonstrations are held in Budapest against the flow of (negative) foreign propaganda linked to the Mindszenty-case.

Romania – February, 1949 (PIR)

Following an agreement between the Ministry of Agriculture and the Romanian Orthodox Church, the property of Bishoprics is appropriated to the former; priests hold only the parochial land, which they cultivate using either salaried or common voluntary labor of the believers.

Czechoslovakia – February 1, 1949 (KCA)

The new Czechoslovak legal and judicial system comes into force, whereby trial by jury and other “Western” conceptions of justice are abolished in favor of a system completely subordinated to control by the State. The change comes after an extensive purge of “politically unreliable” lawyers.

Hungary – February 1, 1949 (KCA) (REV)

The Hungarian Independence People’s Front, grouping all the Hungarian political parties, is set up in Budapest. It is headed by a National Council of 43 members, including 17 representatives from the United Workers’ Party (Communists and Socialists), 8 from the Smallholders’ Party, 5 from the National Peasants’ Party and the remainder from the trade unions, women’s organizations and youth organizations. Its National Council elects Mátyás Rákosi as its Chairman and László Rajk as its Secretary. The first national congress is held on March 15. This brings a de facto end to the multi-party system.

Soviet Union / Norway – February 1, 1949 (KCA)

In reply to the Soviet note of January 29, the Norwegian Foreign Ministry declares that it will not be part in any organization with an aggressive policy towards other countries.

Romania – February 1, 1949 (PIR)

The CC of the PMR discusses, inter alia, the problem of having troops divided between the military and the Ministry of Internal Affairs.

A law is passed organizing the Ministry of Industry.

Bulgaria – February 2, 1949 (KCA)

Bulgarian Foreign Minister Vasil Kolarov presents a law on the organization of the churches in Bulgaria to the Sobranje.

Hungary – February 2, 1949 (REV)

István Barankovics goes into exile. As a protest against the political situation, his Democratic People's Party dissolves itself.

Yugoslavia – February 2, 1949 (KCA)

In a note to Moscow the Yugoslav Government protests its exclusion from the recently created Comecon.

Yugoslavia – February 2, 1949 (PVC)

Moša Pijade delivers a speech at the congress of the Serbian People's Front in which he rebuffs the charges of the Cominform in twelve points.

Hungary – February 3-8, 1949 (REV)

The trial of Cardinal József Mindszenty and six associates begins in the Budapest People's Tribunal. He is sentenced to life imprisonment. On February 12, Pope Pius XII asks the Western powers for aid in defending the Eastern European Catholic churches.

Norway – February 3, 1949 (KCA)

In an address to the Storting, Norwegian Foreign Minister Halvard Lange emphasizes that Norway would have to make further investigations before deciding whether it wishes to be invited to join the Atlantic Pact, and that its decision would be based on the best interests of protecting Norway.

Yugoslavia / Italy – February 3, 1949 (KCA)

An Italian-Yugoslav frontier agreement is signed, whereby both countries agree to open their borders (for the first time since 1947), make certain minor rectifications in the frontier by agreement of the joint frontier commission, and freely exchange goods.

Hungary / U.K. / U.S. – February 4, 1949 (LBC)

The U.K. and U.S. protest for being unable to send observers to the Mindszenty trial, which according to the peace treaty they should be allowed to do.

Hungary – February 4, 1949 (HC)

The Hungarian Government issues a protest note against the admission of Yugoslavia into the Comecon.

Romania – February 4, 1949 (PIR)

Petru Borilă is appointed Deputy Minister of the Armed Forces.

Yugoslavia / Albania – February 4, 1949 (PVC)

The Albanian Communist daily accuses the Yugoslav secret police of breaking into the building of the Albanian Embassy in Belgrade.

Yugoslavia / Albania – February 5, 1949 (PVC)

The Albanian Government protests in a note about 46 Yugoslav border incidents between July 27, 1948 and January 17, 1949. It is the first time that articles on the border incidents have appeared in the Albanian press.

Romania – February 6, 1949 (KCA)

The National People's Party, which aims to represent the middle class and is the smallest of the parties in the Government coalition, decides to dissolve itself. It states that the middle class had already been liberated from the influence of the bourgeoisie and that the middle class alliance with the working class could only be translated into practice within existing mass organizations such as the people's councils.

U.S. / Norway – February 6-11, 1949 (KCA)

Norwegian Foreign Minister Halvard Lange visits Washington to further discuss the Atlantic Alliance with US Secretary of State Dean Acheson. At the end of their meeting they jointly issue a statement saying that "no decisions were contemplated or reached during these discussions" regarding Norway's membership of the Atlantic Pact.

Soviet Union / France / U.K. – February 7-8, 1949 (LBC)

British Foreign Secretary Clement Attlee and French Minister of Foreign Affairs Robert Schuman declare that they are against further four-power talks either at the level of the foreign ministers or higher level until the Soviet Union shows readiness to cooperate by reducing tension, preferably by eliminating the Berlin blockade.

Romania – February 7-8, 1949 (PIR)

Colonel Ion Uță, head of the anti-communist resistance group of the Banat Mountains, is killed in battle against the troops of the Securitate.

Hungary – February 8, 1949 (KCA)

The court's verdict in the Mindszenty trial is read. Cardinal Mindszenty is found guilty of all charges and is sentenced to life imprisonment. The other accused receive sentences ranging from three to ten years imprisonment.

Yugoslavia / U.K. – February 8, 1949 (PVC)

In a letter to the British Embassy in Belgrade, the British Foreign Office suggests the re-establishment of unofficial contact between the Yugoslavian and Greek Governments, using the Greek Ambassador in London and the High Commissioner of Australia as mediators.

Yugoslavia / Soviet Union / U.N. – February 8, 1949 (LBY)

The Soviet representative requests that the U.N. Security Council considers appointing a governor to the Free Territory of Trieste in the near future. He also suggests that the Yugoslavs be permitted to try their case regarding Southern

Carinthia, possibly with the hope of provoking a direct clash between the West and Yugoslavia.

Austria / Soviet Union / France / U.K. / U.S. – February 9, 1949 (KCA)

The four-power discussions on the Austrian Peace Treaty are resumed at Lancaster House, London.

Hungary / U.S. / U.K. – February 9, 1949 (LBC)

U.S. Secretary of State Acheson condemns the outcome of the Mindszenty trial, and Congress passes a resolution bringing the case to the U.N. The next day the U.N. claims the right to investigate possible violations of human rights and the peace treaty. The First Secretary of the Hungarian legation in Washington is expelled, and U.S. Minister in Budapest Chapin is recalled.

Bulgaria – February 10, 1949 (KCA)

The Bulgarian Ministry of Interior announces that 15 pastors of the United Evangelical Churches in Bulgaria have been arrested and will be brought to trial on charges of espionage for Britain and America, high treason and currency offences. It is further stated that they had confessed their alleged guilt while in prison.

Romania / Hungary – February 10, 1949 (PIR)

A Romanian-Hungarian convention on citizenship is signed in Bucharest.

Romania – February 10, 1949 (PIR)

A law on the constitution of the investment work fund, and for the realization of paying benefits, is adopted.

Yugoslavia / Pakistan – February 10, 1949 (OEH)

Yugoslavia signs a trade agreement with Pakistan.

Soviet Union / India – February 11, 1949 (KCA)

It is announced in New Delhi that a new food agreement has been signed with the Soviet Union.

Romania – February 12, 1949 (PIR)

Spiru Blănaru, leader of the anti-communist resistance group of Teregova (Banat), is arrested.

Hungary – February 13, 1949 (HC)

In his proclamation given to MTI, Minister of Foreign Affairs László Rajk condemns the “flow of world-wide aspersion” due to the Mindszenty-case.

Yugoslavia / Hungary – February 14, 1949 (PVC)

Hungary sends a note protesting the treatment of Yugoslav citizens of Hungarian descent, the ongoing border incidents and the alleged espionage of Yugoslav diplomats in Hungary.

Czechoslovakia – February 15, 1949 (KCA)

General Rajmund Mrazek, leader of the Czechoslovak resistance during the war, a prominent figure in the Prague uprising of May 1945 and Military Attaché in Moscow after the war, is sentenced to life imprisonment on charges of transmitting secret information to British and U.S. agents.

Germany / Soviet Union / U.S. – February 16, 1949 (KCA)

U.S. Commander-in-Chief in Germany, General Lucius Clay, informs the Soviet repatriation mission in Frankfurt-am-Main that it will be requested to leave the U.S. zone by March 1, since “sufficient time has elapsed since the surrender of Germany for a voluntary repatriation to be completed.”

Soviet Bloc / U.S. – February 17, 1949 (LBC)

According to Truman, the aim of the North Atlantic Alliance is “to provide unmistakable proof of the joint determination of the free countries to resist armed attack from any quarter”. According to Senators Tom Connally and Arthur Vandenberg the pact does not obligate the U.S. to automatically enter the war in the interest of a European member.

Yugoslavia / Albania – February 17, 1949 (PVC)

Yugoslavia charges the Albanian authorities of breaking into the flat of the Yugoslav press attaché and arresting two Yugoslav citizens and two employees of the mission.

Yugoslavia / U.S. – February 17, 1949 (HWC)

National Security Council's estimate NSC 18/2 confirms that U.S. policy should continue not to extract specific political commitments from Tito.

Hungary – February 18, 1949 (HC)

The President absolves Ernő Gerő from his leadership of the Ministry of Transportations, and names him Minister of Finance. The new Minister of Transportations is Lajos Bebrits.

Yugoslavia / Hungary / Bulgaria – February 18, 1949 (PVC)

Yugoslav authorities announce the arrest of 20 Hungarian and Bulgarian agents.

Yugoslavia / U.S. – February 18, 1949 (LBY)

The effective reversal of American policy is approved by President Truman after discussion at the National Security Council.

Yugoslavia / U.K. – February 18, 1949 (HWC)

British Foreign Secretary Ernest Bevin talks to Deputy Foreign Minister of Yugoslavia, Aleš Bebler, who is in London attending a conference. Bevin tries to persuade Bebler to end the Yugoslav help to the Greek partisans, and not to be as adamant about Yugoslav claims to parts of Carinthia and Northern Epirus.

Bulgaria – February 19, 1949 (KCA)

The Zveno party, led by Colonel Kimon Georgieff, decides to discontinue its existence as an independent party and merge into the Fatherland Front, stating that the party had already fulfilled its program, and that its members should support the establishment of Socialism in Bulgaria.

Hungary – February 19, 1949 (HC)

The Iron Factory of Diósgyőr challenges the workers of all other factories to a so-called performance competition. Numerous big and middle-sized factories join the challenge in a few weeks.

Soviet Union / U.S. – February 19, 1949 (LBC)

East-West agreement on drawing up an export-import list aimed at reviving trade between the two regions. According to the agreement, the U.S. will continue to ban exports of potential war materials to Eastern Europe unless the Soviet Union gives up its ‘aggressive’ politics.

Hungary – February 20, 1949 (HC)

The so-called Black Book is released. It contains the aspersions of the Mindszenty-case.

Finland – February 21, 1949 (KCA)

Former Finnish Premier Rangell, who had been sentenced to six years imprisonment in February 1946, on charges of permitting the entry of Finland into the war, is released after serving three years.

Albania – February 21, 1949 (CEC/KCA)

Albania joins the Comecon.

Hungary – February 23, 1949 (HC)

The Hungarian Independent People’s Front admits the Independent Hungarian Democratic Party and the Alliance of Radical Democratic Parties.

Romania – February 23, 1949 (PIR)

MAN approves the Organization and functioning Statute of the Romanian Orthodox Church.

Yugoslavia / Hungary – February 23, 1949 (PVC)

Another Yugoslav note is sent to the Hungarian government protesting border incidents and accusing the Hungarians of fueling tension.

Bulgaria – February 24, 1949 (KCA)

The Sobranje adopts the Church Law.

Hungary – February 25, 1949 (HC)

Based on the 1948: XXXVIII Law, the Hungarian Scientific Board is formed. Its

objective is to guide scientific life and the approach of scientific research towards ordinary life.

Soviet Union / U.K. / U.S. – February 26, 1949 (KCA)

The Soviet Government sends notes of protest to both the U.S. and British Governments alleging that the Anglo-American military authorities in Germany and Austria had impeded the repatriation of Soviet nationals.

Soviet Union – February 28, 1949 (KCA)

A decree for considerable reductions in the retail prices of consumer goods, which will take effect March 1, is announced.

March 1949

Romania – March 1949 (PIR)

The Academy Institute for Literary History and Folklore is founded (in 1965 renamed the Institute for History and Literary Theory ‘G. Călinescu’).

Germany, Western Zone – March 1, 1949 (KCA)

Despite promises, the Soviet Repatriation Mission has not yet left Frankfurt to this date. The U.S. blocks the Mission’s premises and cuts off supplies of gas, water, electricity and communication.

Yugoslavia / U.K. – March 1, 1949 (LBY)

Negotiations begin in Belgrade for an British-Yugoslav long-term trade agreement. Just a few days into the negotiations, serious differences arise.

Romania – March 2, 1949 (PIR)

The law for the expropriation of estates larger than 50 ha and of model-farms is adopted: 6,258 estates and 4,456 manor houses are nationalized. All land, buildings, agricultural installations, agricultural products, as well as titles and debts resulting from class exploitation are seized by the state. Resistance against confiscation and hiding of goods is punished with 5-15 years of forced labor and the seizure of all holdings.

Hungary – March 3, 1949 (HC)

The previously separated Civic Democratic Party and the Hungarian Radical Party unite and participate in the People’s Front under the name of the Hungarian Radical Party.

Romania – March 3-5, 1949 (PIR)

The CC Plenary of the PMR adopts the resolution regarding “the battle for the strengthening of the alliance between the working class and the working peasantry, as well as the socialist transformation of agriculture.” The resolution establishes the

five non-socialist agricultural categories – agricultural proletariat, poor peasants, middle peasants, kulaks and landowners – and stipulates the transformation of agriculture through the organization of CAP, SMT, GAC. The Plenary’s immediate objective was the containment of the kulaks, aimed at putting an end to “kulak exploitation”.

Germany – March 4, 1949 (KCA)

The Soviet Repatriation Mission leaves Frankfurt for the Soviet zone.

Hungary – March 4, 1949 (HC)

The Council of Ministers raises the salary of scientists and researchers.

Soviet Union – March 4, 1949 (KCA)

It is announced in Moscow that Molotov has been released from his duties as Foreign Minister and is to be replaced by Vyshinsky; that Mikoyan is to be followed by Menshikov as Minister of Foreign Trade, and that Gromyko is to succeed Vyshinsky as First Deputy Foreign Minister.

Hungary – March 5, 1949 (HC)

The Central Leadership of the Hungarian Workers’ Party convenes in Budapest. Mátyás Rákosi talks about the defeat of the reaction in the Mindszenty-case, the support of the middle-class peasants, about the regulation of the kulaks, the Five-Year Plan, and the results of the reconsideration of party membership.

Hungary – March 10-23, 1949 (HC)

Laws are passed on regulations of the international treaty on Danube transport, changes in the electoral law, avoidance of double taxation in Hungarian-Romanian trade, and changes in the justice system. In the last case the participation of laymen as judges in trials is added.

Soviet Union – March 15, 1949 (KCA)

Moscow radio announces the large-scale reorganization of Soviet Ministries, including the merger of several existing ministries and the creation of several new ones. The general effect is to reduce the total number of Ministries from 60 to 48.

Soviet Union / France / U.K. / U.S. – March 15, 1949 (KCA)

Britain, the U.S. and France continue to protest the retention of German prisoners of war in the USSR.

Yugoslavia / U.S. / Macedonia – March 15, 1949 (HWC)

According to some rumours, the proclamation of an independent Macedonian state was planned for 15 March. By June 10, 1949 the CIA believes that the proclamation of such an independent state is highly unlikely in the immediate future and estimates that the idea could only have limited support among Macedonian Yugoslavs.

Bulgaria / Hungary / Romania / U.K. / U.S. – March 16, 1949 (LBC)

The U.S and U.K. accuse Romania, Bulgaria and Hungary of violating their peace treaties and human rights.

Romania – March 16, 1949 (PIR)

The CC Secretariat of PMR discusses the decree-project for judicial organization and the one for the nationalization of small industrial enterprises.

Yugoslavia / Soviet Union – March 16, 1949 (WBA)

The Yugoslav Government proposes the liquidation of the JUSPAD and JUSTA joint stock companies. The Soviet Government consents.

Romania – March 17, 1949 (PIR)

Aurel Vernichescu, head of an armed anti-communist resistance group in Vârciorova, is arrested by Securitate troops.

Romania / U.S. – March 17, 1949 (LBC)

The U.S. protests the nationalization of foreign property in Romania.

Romania – March 18, 1949 (PIR)

A decree is passed which aims to regulate the salary system based on quantity and quality of work.

Romania – March 19-21, 1949 (PIR)

The congress for the constitution of the Union of the Working Youth (later, the UTC) takes place.

Poland – March 20, 1949 (PSN)

A letter written by the Minister of Public Administration, Wladyslaw Wolski, addressed to Bishop Zymunt Choromanski is published. The letter states that though the Government does not intend to restrict religion, the Church should not interfere in public life. Later meetings are held in which representatives of the government demand that church leaders confine themselves to church matters and not politics.

Albania / Soviet Union – March 21-April 10, 1949 (KCA)

An Albanian Government delegation accompanied by the Soviet Ambassador in Tirana visits Moscow for negotiations, resulting in an agreement with the USSR to deliver equipment and materials on credit to Albania.

Yugoslavia / India – March 22, 1949 (OEH)

Yugoslavia signs a trade agreement with India.

Czechoslovakia / U.K. – March 23, 1949 (KCA)

The British Embassy in Prague announces that Capt. Philip Wildash, British Military Permit Officer in Prague, had been detained and interrogated by police on

the previous day, and was subsequently released. The Embassy was notified by the Czechoslovak Foreign Ministry that Wildash was facing serious charges and was liable to arrest unless he left the country in 24 hours, which he did. During his seven-hour interrogation, Wildash was given no valid reason for his detainment, only the vague statement that it was due to a “serious offence against the State”.

Czechoslovakia – March 23, 1949 (KCA)

Several Czech employees of the British Military Permit Office in Prague are arrested, along with Capt. Wildash’s secretary.

Czechoslovakia – March 23, 1949 (KCA)

The government announces that 17 prominent émigrés, including a number of former political leaders, will be tried in absentia on charges of treason.

Romania – March 23, 1949 (PIR)

The CC Secretariat of PMR adopts a series of measures for the prevention of acts of sabotage in state enterprises, and discusses the project for the Labor Code and the use of political detainees for work.

Yugoslavia / Bulgaria – March 23-24, 1949 (PVC)

A trial of Yugoslav citizens takes place in Bulgaria. They are accused of espionage and sentenced to imprisonment.

Czechoslovakia – March 24, 1949 (KCA)

The Czechoslovak National Assembly adopts legislation making the publication, printing, illustration and distribution of all books and music the prerogative of the State, terminating the right of the individual to undertake such activities.

Hungary / U.S. – March 24, 1949 (LBC)

Two assistant military attachés (Kopcsak and Merrill) are expelled from Hungary.

Soviet Union – March 24, 1949 (KCA)

Moscow radio announces that Marshall Alexander Vassilievsky, Chief of Staff of the Soviet Army, has been appointed Minister for the Armed forces, replacing Bulganin.

Soviet Union / US – March 24, 1949 (CWC)

An article in Pravda denies the American charge that the Soviet Union uses slave labor. In addition to denouncing the United States for making such an allegation, it accuses the United States of using slave labor itself.

Czechoslovakia / UK – March 25, 1949 (KCA)

The British Government issues a strong note to the Czechoslovak Government categorically rejecting the charges brought against Wildash.

Romania – March 25-27, 1949 (PIR)

The Conference of Writers in Bucharest decides the foundation of the Romanian Writers' Union.

Yugoslavia / U.K. / Soviet Union – March 25, 1949 (PVC)

The British Ministry of Defence prepares a detailed analysis for Ernest Bevin on the possible developments in Soviet-Yugoslav relations. The analysis deals with four possibilities: direct Soviet attack against Yugoslavia, satellite attack on Yugoslavia; military coup and creating internal difficulties. Of the four possibilities, the last one is considered to be the most likely.

Czechoslovakia – March 26, 1949 (KCA)

The Czechoslovak Government issues two statements alleging that Capt. Wildash had been involved in "a plot against the Republic".

Bulgaria – March 26-27, 1949 (KCA)

The Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party meets. During the meeting it is announced that Kostov, Vice-Premier since the formation of the Fatherland Front, has been removed from the party's Politburo and relieved of his posts as Deputy Premier and as chairman of the National Economic and Financial Committee, because he had pursued an "insincere and unfriendly policy towards the USSR" during trade negotiations. Kostov was subsequently appointed Director of the National Library.

Hungary – March 27, 1949 (HC)

The first session of the reorganized Hungarian Historical Association takes place.

Germany, Soviet Occupied Zone – March 30, 1949 (KCA)

General Vassili Chuikov is appointed as the Military Governor of the Soviet zone in Germany.

Soviet Union / U.S. – March 31, 1949 (LBC)

In a note, the Soviet Union accuses the seven states initiating NATO of preparing to sign an openly aggressive treaty, and of violating the Atlantic Charter and other Soviet-Western treaties.

Yugoslavia – March 31, 1949 (PVC)

Tito delivers a speech in front of the delegates of the Istrian and Slovenian coast. Tito denies that he has received British or American delegates.

Yugoslavia / Germany, Western Zone – March 31, 1949 (OEH)

Yugoslavia concludes a trade agreement and a protocol supplementing the agreement signed on August 11, 1947 with the Western German Economic Area.

Germany, Western Zone – March, 1949 (PLC)

It is stated that the only accepted currency in West Germany is the Western mark.

April 1949

Yugoslavia / Albania / Greece / U.N. – April-May 1949 (SGY)

The U.N. Conciliation Committee initiates a new round of talks with Greece and its three northern Balkan neighbours. The Committee's efforts soon focus on the problem of the Greek-Albanian frontier.

Romania – April 1, 1949 (PIR)

The government discusses the law of popular councils, the organizational scheme of the capital, districts and urban communes, and the law for the organization of cooperations.

Soviet Union – April 1, 1949 (KCA)

Through its diplomatic representatives in Washington, London, Paris, Ottawa, Brussels, The Hague, and Luxembourg, the Soviet Government sends notes protesting the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

Yugoslavia / France – April 1, 1949 (PVC)

A French delegation of 12 members arrives in Belgrade to negotiate the reparations for nationalized French property and a possible trade agreement.

Bulgaria / Hungary / Romania / U.K. / U.S. – April 2, 1949 (LBC)

In diplomatic notes, the U.S. and United Kingdom accuse Bulgaria, Romania and Hungary of violating the peace treaty by disregarding human rights.

Romania – April 2, 1949 (PIR)

Decree no. 134 for the nationalization of all means of medical assistance (pharmacies, chemical-pharmaceutical laboratories) is published.

Romania – April 2, 1949 (PIR)

Ana Pauker exposes the working program for the creation of collective farms before the CC Secretariat, which is approved by the PMR leadership.

Czechoslovakia April 3, 1949 (KCA)

The Czechoslovak Government rejects the British note of March 25.

Hungary – April 3, 1949 (PVC)

Employees of the British legation in Budapest visit the area around Szeged, because of alleged Soviet troop manoeuvres. They do not see any unusual activities.

Hungary – April 4, 1949 (HC)

Within the frameworks of an official opening ceremony at the FTC stadium, the

first actions of the paramilitary MHK movement ('Ready to work and fight') take place.

Soviet Union – April 4, 1949 (KCA)

Further Soviet notes are presented in Rome, Copenhagen and Oslo protesting the association of the countries with the North Atlantic Treaty.

NATO – April 4, 1949 (LBC)

The North Atlantic Treaty is signed.

Yugoslavia / Hungary – April 4, 1949 (PVC)

A trial of Hungarian agents accused of espionage starts in Novi Sad. Among the eight accused, seven are Yugoslav citizens of Hungarian nationality.

Hungary – April 5, 1949 (PLC)

The U.N. raises objections against the trial of Cardinal Mindszenty in Hungary.

Soviet Union / NATO – April 5, 1949 (KCA)

A joint statement by the twelve NATO signatories is made to counter Soviet worries. It claims the Soviet Government to have misinterpreted the purpose of the North Atlantic Treaty.

U.S. – April 5, 1949 (LBC)

U.S. Army Chief of Staff General Omar N. Bradley talks about the necessity of planning to save Western Europe from invasions coming from the East.

Poland – April 5, 1949 (KCA)

Warsaw announces a number of changes in the cabinet.

Germany, Western Zone / France / UK / US – April 8, 1949 (PLC)

The foreign ministers of the United States, France and United Kingdom meet in Washington. They decide on the establishment of a West German state – the new state will no longer be administered militarily. The occupying powers keep some power.

Yugoslavia – April 9, 1949 (KCA) (PVC)

The third congress of the Yugoslav People's Front takes place in Belgrade with 1,600 delegates. Tito is reelected president of the people's front.

In an address to a congress of the Yugoslav People's Front, he strongly denounces the Cominform.

Yugoslavia / U.K. / Albania – April 9, 1949 (PVC)

The International Court of Justice at The Hague gives its verdict on the incident at the Corfu Channel on October 22, 1946 and declares that Albania has full responsibility for the mining of the channel.

Romania – April 10, 1949 (PIR)

Provisional Committees of the Popular Counsels are instituted.

Hungary – April 12, 1949 (REV)

Parliament is dissolved and general elections are called to take place on May 15. The parties of the Hungarian Independent People's Front put forward a joint list.

Hungary / Czechoslovakia – April 14, 1949 (HC/KCA)

Led by Prime Minister Antonin Zapotocky, a Czechoslovakian government delegation arrives in Hungary. On April 16 they sign a 20-year pact of friendship cooperation and mutual assistance.

Romania – April 14, 1949 (PIR)

The PMR Political Bureau approves the proposal to release Ștefan Voitec and Traian Săvulescu from their positions as Vice-Presidents of the Council of Ministers, appointing Ana Pauker and Vasile Luca instead.

Yugoslavia / Italy – April 14, 1949 (KCA)

Italy and Yugoslavia sign a trade agreement in Rome according to which Italy will deliver 3 torpedo-boats, 4 tug boats, a tanker, and a pontoon to Yugoslavia as repayment for Yugoslav ships Italy destroyed during the war. This and the agreement signed the previous day are regarded as being indicative of an improvement in Italian-Yugoslav relations.

Bulgaria – April 15, 1949 (KCA)

It is announced in Sofia that Prime Minister Dimitrov has been granted leave of absence for health reasons and is, in the Soviet Union, receiving medical treatment. In his absence an 'inner cabinet' has been set up to supervise governmental activities, with Kolarov as leader of the Government ad interim.

Germany, Western Zone – April 16, 1949 (KCA)

In the past 24 hours, the Berlin Airlift has brought a record number of supplies to the city. During this short time frame 10,904 tons were flown in by the Americans and 2,036 by the British, which is considered to be an unprecedented accomplishment.

Yugoslavia – April 16, 1949 (KCA)

The Yugoslav Information Office releases a Cabinet list showing multiple changes in the Cabinet.

Romania / Yugoslavia – April 18, 1949 (PIR)

The CC of PMR decides on the foundation of an organization for Yugoslav communist political immigrants.

Soviet Union – April 19, 1949 (KCA)

A three year plan for the expansion of livestock production is announced in a decree issued jointly by the Soviet Council of Ministers and the Central Committee of the Communist Party.

Yugoslavia / Bulgaria – April 19-23, 1949 (PVC)

A trial of espionage takes place in Niš. Yugoslav citizen Miroslava Janković and Bulgarian citizens Aleksander Dotchev and Angel Popov are accused of committing acts of war against Yugoslavia. It is impossible to verify the charges, but its timing indicates that it is a response to the arrest of Traicho Kostov.

France – April 20, 1949 (CWC)

The World Congress of Partisans for Peace, a communist front organization working to support the Soviet “peace offensive” meets in Paris for five days.

Hungary – April 21, 1949 (KCA)

The Ministry of the Interior announces that only 5 parties grouped in the Communist-controlled Hungarian Independent People’s Front (the Hungarian Workers’ Party, the Smallholders’ Party, the National Peasant Party, the Independent Democratic Party and the Radical Party) will present candidates, and that the election will be held on a single list.

Poland – April 22, 1949 (KCA)

Hilary Minc, Minister of Trade and Industry, is appointed Deputy Premier.

Hungary – April 23, 1949 (HC)

A law is passed declaring May 1 an official holiday.

Romania – April 25, 1949 (PIR)

The Romanian Society for Medical Sciences is created.

Yugoslavia / Hungary – April 25, 1949 (PVC)

Yugoslav border guards shoot József Salgó and József Molnár at Elsőszölnök. According to the Yugoslav version of the story, the Hungarian border guards went across the border line into Yugoslav territory, in spite of a warning.

Germany, Soviet Occupied Zone / U.S. – April 26, 1949 (KCA)

Soviet TASS Agency announces that the Soviet Government has made known to the U.S. Government its willingness to raise the blockade of Berlin if the Western Powers lift their counter-measures and set a definite date to discuss the question of Germany.

Romania – April 28, 1949 (PIR)

General Radu Korne dies in the Văcărești prison.

Romania – April 29, 1949 (KCA)

The Romanian Government places roughly 2/3 of the country's territory under a 'restricted area'-policy which may not be visited by foreign diplomats.

Bulgaria / Hungary / U.K. / U.S. / U.N – April 30, 1949 (LBC)

A U.N. resolution calls on Hungary and Bulgaria to respond to the Anglo-American charge that the trials of ecclesiastical officials are in violation of the peace treaty.

Romania – April 30, 1949 (PIR)

Decree no. 183 regarding the punishment of economic crimes is published. "Concealing, destroying or altering products or goods" is punishable with forced labor from 5 to 15 years and a fine between 50,000 and 200,000 lei (art. 4); and the non-observance of state plans is punishable with corrective imprisonment from 1 to 12 years and a fine ranging from 10,000 lei to 100,000 lei.

May 1949

Hungary / Soviet Union – May 1949 (HC)

An 80-member Hungarian peasant delegation studies Soviet agriculture.

Yugoslavia – May 1949 (ACY)

Reverends Franc Ramšak and Alojz Tome, together with a number of other priests, are tried for cooperating with the Četniks during the war and for alleged contacts with the Bitenc group. The same week a group of Jesuits, including the Reverend Ludwig Lederhas, superior of the community in Ljubljana, is tried. All Jesuit property in Ljubljana is confiscated.

Hungary – May 1, 1949 (HC)

A great military parade of the Hungarian People's Army takes place in Budapest.

Yugoslavia – May 1, 1949 (PVC)

In his speech on May 1, Moša Pijade openly criticizes Andrei Zhdanov and states that the Yugoslavs want cooperation, not obedience, with the Soviet Union.

Yugoslavia / Hungary – May 2, 1949 (PVC)

Hungary sends a note to Yugoslavia protesting the shooting of two Hungarian border guards on April 25, 1949.

Austria – May 3, 1949 (KCA)

The Austrian Government dedicates the former Nazi concentration camp at Mauthausen as a national memorial to the memory of those who died and were murdered there by the Nazis.

Austria / Soviet Union – May 4, 1949 (KCA)

The Tass Agency announces that Lt.-Gen. Sviridov, formerly the Chairman of the Allied Control Commission in Hungary, has been appointed Military Governor of the Soviet zone in Austria.

Germany / Allied forces – May 5, 1949 (KCA)

A communiqué is issued by London, Paris, Washington and Moscow agreeing that, starting May 12, both the Soviet Union and the Western Powers will lift all restrictions on Berlin they had placed since March 1, 1948 and that the Powers will meet on May 23 to discuss questions relating to Germany,

Hungary – May 5, 1949 (HC)

József Grösz, Archbishop of Kalocsa, informs the electoral committee of the People's Front in a letter that the council of the Roman Catholic priests asks their followers to use their voting rights, and should vote according to their own conscience.

Yugoslavia / Czechoslovakia – May 5, 1949 (WBA)

A note of protest of the Yugoslav Embassy in Prague against the fact that the Czechoslovak Government made it impossible for a delegation of the Yugoslav National Committee for the Defence of Peace to take part in the work of the Prague Peace Congress in April, 1949, is handed to the Czechoslovak government.

Yugoslavia / U.K. – May 5-9, 1949 (PVC/LBY)

Fizroy Maclean visits Tito in Yugoslavia. During their meeting, Tito promises to seal the Yugoslav-Greek frontier, and relinquish the support of Greek partisans. Tito takes full advantage of the opportunity to state Yugoslavia's urgent need of credits from Britain valued at £11.6 million in the form of "medium term credit on the British market."

Yugoslavia / Albania / Hungary – May 5, 1949 (PVC)

The Yugoslav authorities force the landing of a MASZOVLET regular flight between Budapest and Tirana at Belgrade, most likely because the Albanian Minister of Justice is among the plane's passengers.

Romania – May 6, 1949 (PIR)

A communiqué on the realization of the state plan for the first trimester of 1949 is issued.

Yugoslavia / Hungary – May 6, 1949 (PVC)

Borba accuses the Hungarian authorities of sending six agents of Yugoslav descent across the Hungarian-Yugoslav border between Kelebia and Subotica.

Romania – May 7, 1949 (KCA)

The Bucharest Supreme Court dismisses appeals by Julio Maniu, leader of the

outlawed National Peasant Party, Ion Mihalache, Vice-President of the party, and 13 other associates of the sentences to life imprisonment for alleged treason that were passed in November 1947.

West Germany – May 8, 1949 (PLC)

On the 4th anniversary of the German capitulation, the temporary West German constitution, the Grundgesetz, is accepted.

Austria / Yugoslavia / Soviet Union / France / U.K. / U.S. – May 10, 1949 (KCA)

The four-Power discussions on the Austrian Peace Treaty are once again adjourned without an agreement being reached on the disputed articles, notably Yugoslavia's demands for frontier rectifications, autonomy for Carinthian Slovenes, and the amount and method of payment of reparations to the Soviet Union.

Romania – May 10, 1949 (PIR)

The CC Secretariat analyzes the situation of party members excluded after verification, the distribution of party membership cards, the organization of trials against members of anti-communist resistance fighters from the mountains, and the donation of the Cotroceni Palace to the Pioneers' Organization.

Austria – May 11, 1949 (KCA)

The Austrian Parliament unanimously adopts a resolution appealing to Britain, the U.S., France and the Soviet Union to conclude a peace treaty with Austria at the earliest possible moment.

Romania / Soviet Union – May 11, 1949 (PIR)

The USSR offers a new state loan to Romania; a total of 77 billion rubles has been lent between 1945 and 1949.

Albania / Yugoslavia– May 11, 1949 (PVC) (REV)

The trial of Interior Minister Koci Xoxe starts in Tirana behind closed doors. He is sentenced to death and is executed. His trial is part of the campaign against Yugoslavia and preludes a spate of show trials in the Soviet-bloc countries.

Germany – May 12, 1949 (KCA)

The Soviet blockade of Berlin and the Western Powers' counter measures end at one minute past midnight.

Austria – May 13, 1949 (KCA)

Soviet authorities inform Figl, the Australian Chancellor, that the existing restrictions on the control of goods traffic between the Western and Soviet zones of Austria will be relaxed starting May 25.

Romania – May 13, 1949 (PIR)

The Grand Assembly of the Committee for the Defense of Peace in the RPR is summoned.

Hungary – May 15, 1949 (HC) (KCA)

General Elections take place in Hungary. Participation is 96,04%, of which 96,27% votes are cast for the representatives of the People's Front. 270 seats are given to the Hungarian Workers' Party, 62 for the Smallholders, 30 for the National Peasants, 12 for the Independent Democrats, and 4 for the Radicals. U.S. Secretary of State Dean Acheson denounces the Hungarian election as a "flagrant violation" of the political freedoms guaranteed in the Hungarian Peace Treaty.

Germany, Soviet Occupied Zone – May 15-16, 1949 (PLC)

At the single-listed elections in the Soviet occupational zone of Germany, the SED receives 66.1% of the votes.

Czechoslovakia – May 16, 1949 (KCA)

General Karl Kutlvasr, who led the Prague uprising in Germany in 1945 and who was a leader of the Czechoslovak resistance movement, is sentenced to life imprisonment on charges of conspiracy against the State and espionage on behalf of an unnamed Western Power.

Romania – May 16-18, 1949 (PIR)

Elections for popular assessors in Bucharest take place.

Yugoslavia / U.S. – May 16, 1949 (HWC/LYE)

The Yugoslav pursuit of \$25 million worth of export credits from the U.S. Export-Import Bank in Washington begins. The request is eventually fulfilled: a \$20 million credit is granted to Yugoslavia in September at a 3.5% interest rate over seven years and with no payment until 1954.

Finland – May 19, 1949 (KCA)

Former President Risto Ryti, who was sentenced to ten years imprisonment with hard labor by the war guilt tribunal in February 1946, is pardoned by President Paasikivi on the recommendation of the Cabinet. The pardon is issued based on the advice of Ryti's doctors, who allegedly said he suffers from an incurable disease.

Yugoslavia / Hungary – May 19, 1949 (PVC)

Yugoslavia sends a note to Hungary protesting the delay in the shipment of Hungarian repatriations.

West Germany – May 20, 1949 (KCA)

Railway workers in the Western sectors of Berlin commence a strike demanding the Reichsbahn, which is under the jurisdiction of the Soviet transport authorities, to pay employees in Western marks, to remove restrictions on trade union

membership, and to reinstate workers dismissed by the Communist head of the Railway Administration Herr Kreykemeier.

Hungary – May 20, 1949 (HC)

The Government of István Dobi resigns.

The number 4043/1949 decree of the government is published, according to which the Budapest Stock and Commodity Exchange is eliminated from May 31.

Soviet Union / U.S. / U.N. – May 21, 1949 (LBC)

The European Economic Committee of the U.N. decides to set up a permanent committee for the development of East-West trade. The U.S. and the Soviet Union support the resolution.

Yugoslavia / France – May 21, 1949 (PVC)

Yugoslavia signs a one-year trade agreement with France.

Finland – May 22, 1949 (KCA)

President Paasikivi extends pardons to Vaino Tanner and Erwin Linkomies, who were released on parole in 1948 after serving half of their sentences.

West Germany – May 23, 1949 (PLC/REV)

The Grundgesetz is put into force in West Germany. The Federal Republic of Germany is founded in the three Western zones of occupation.

Germany / Austria/ Yugoslavia / Soviet Union – May 23-June 20, 1949 (PLC)

The 8th session of the Council of Foreign Ministers in Paris discusses the German question. At the end of the session, the three Western powers accept the occupational charter of West Germany. The Allied Highest Council of Germany is formed.

It is decided that Yugoslavia cannot get Karintia and other parts of Styria, because Visinshky announced in June that he no longer intends to support the Yugoslavs. It is decided that Austria's frontiers shall be those of January 1, 1938 (the frontiers existing before the Anschluss), that Austria shall guarantee to protect the rights of the Slovene and Croat minority in the country, that reparations shall not be extracted from Austria but that Yugoslavia shall have the right to seize, liquidate or retain Austrian property on Yugoslav territory, that Austria shall pay the Soviet Union \$150,000,000 in war reparations over 6 years, and that Austria shall relinquish all property, rights, or interests held or claimed as German assets and of war industrial enterprises, houses and similar immovable property in Austria held as war booty.

Romania – May 23, 1949 (PIR)

By Decree no. 218, the General Press and Print Direction of the Council of Ministers is founded. The Romanian Press Agency (Agerpres) is created. Another

decree regulates the expansion of the radio audience and the content of radio programs.

Yugoslavia / Soviet Union – May 23, 1949 (KCA)

The Yugoslav Government sends a strongly-worded note to the Soviet Government complaining that the “incomprehensible acts of the USSR and its attitude towards Yugoslavia” are turning the 20 year Soviet-Yugoslav Treaty into a “dead letter”.

Romania – May 25, 1949 (PIR)

The Political Bureau approves the project for the completion of the Danube-Black Sea canal, where tens of thousands of political detainees would work in inhumane conditions.

The trial of the “gang of crooks” – Anton Dumitriu, Radu Xenopol, George Litman – begins; they are accused of fraud and condemned to maximum sentences.

Yugoslavia / Hungary – May 25, 1949 (WBA)

Eleven members of the Yugoslav reparations and restitution delegation are expelled from Hungary by the Hungarian Foreign Ministry’s note No. 4990.

Germany – May 26-30, 1949 (KCA)

The Reichsbahn rejects offers by the U.G.O. trade union of the railway employees to maintain inter-zonal traffic, bringing railway traffic between Berlin and Western Germany to a standstill.

Czechoslovakia – May 28, 1949 (KCA)

Minister of Information Kopecky attacks Roman Catholic hierarchy at the Communist Party Congress in Prague.

Yugoslavia / Hungary – May 28-29, 1949 (PVC)

In its latest note to Hungary, Yugoslavia demands that Hungary comply with the regulations of the peace treaty and continue the shipment of reparations.

Czechoslovakia – May 29, 1949 (KCA)

In a letter to his clergy Beran, Archbishop of Prague and Roman Catholic Primate of Czechoslovakia, declares that resuming negotiations with the Government to improve relations between Church and State would be “hopeless and vain” in light of the Communist attitude towards religion.

Yugoslavia – May 29, 1949 (RSB)

In his two-hour speech Edvard Kardelj introduces to the Yugoslav Parliament the Law on People’s Committees.

East Germany – May 30, 1949 (PLC/REV)

The elected representatives of the Soviet-occupied zone of Germany accept the

constitution of the German Democratic Republic. Inauguration of the republic is proclaimed on October 7.

Hungary / Yugoslavia – May 30, 1949 (KCA)

Belgrade announces that the Yugoslav Reparations Mission in Hungary has been ordered by the Hungarian Government to leave the country after an exchange of notes in which Hungary virtually cancelled its reparations obligations to Yugoslavia by unilateral action.

Soviet Bloc / U.S. – May 30, 1949 (LBC)

US Secretary of Commerce Sawyer admits in a Toronto speech that U.S. foreign policy is directed at holding back East European exports, and only an improvement of East-West relations can change this.

Czechoslovakia / U.S. – May 31, 1949 (LBC)

At a commercial conference in France, Czechoslovakia protests that the U.S. is precluding the delivery of \$27 million worth of goods ordered from the U.S.

Soviet Union / Yugoslavia – May 31, 1949 (KCA)

The Soviet Government sends a reply to the Yugoslav note of May 23, describing Yugoslavia's allegations as "gross slander" and declaring that the Yugoslav Government had "deprived itself of the right to expect a friendly attitude from the Soviet Government inasmuch as Yugoslavia pursues a policy hostile to the Soviet Union.

June, 1949

Hungary / Yugoslavia – June 17 1949 (HC)

The Hungarian Government sends a note to the Yugoslav Government concerning the Yugoslav failure to meet its obligations in light of the July 1947 economic agreement.

Bulgaria / Hungary / Romania / U.K. / U.S. – June 1, 1949 (LBC)

The United Kingdom and the U.S. announce that, in the name of the peace treaty, they demand Romania, Hungary and Bulgaria to rectify the injustices committed against church leaders.

Yugoslavia / U.K. – June 1, 1949 (HWC)

The British Cabinet's Economic Policy Committee, chaired by Attlee, decides that credit can be granted to Yugoslavia, even if it were justified only by political, and not by commercial considerations.

Hungary – June 2, 1949 (HC) (KCA)

Count Mihály Károlyi, Hungarian Minister in Paris since July 1947, presents his

resignation to President Szakasits on the grounds of age and poor health. He then leaves the country permanently.

Romania – June 2, 1949 (PIR)

General Radu R. Rosetti dies in the Jilava prison.

Romania – June 2, 1949 (PIR)

The RPR Academy promises its involvement in the building of the Cernavodă – Black Sea canal, through a telegram of its president, Traian Săvulescu.

Hungary – June 3, 1949 (HC)

The Economic High Council is eliminated.

Austria / Czechoslovakia – June 6, 1949 (KCA)

The trustees of the Austrian Government Guaranteed Conversion Loan announce that Czechoslovakia has failed to pay its portion of the guaranteed interest loan due on June 1 and that the coupons will only be met at 75% of their face value.

Romania – June 7, 1949 (PIR)

The CC Secretariat of PMR discusses the nationalization of the printing press and some private theaters.

Yugoslavia / Czechoslovakia – June 7, 1949 (WBA)

Negotiations on trade policy begin in Prague between delegations of the Yugoslav and the Czechoslovak Governments. The negotiations are broken off by the Czechoslovak Government on June 11, 1949.

Hungary – June 8, 1949 (HC)

The first meeting of the reelected Parliament takes place in Budapest. It approves the number 1949: XV Law about the establishment of new ministries, and about the formation of the new government. According to this, the Ministry for the People's Education, Interior and Foreign Trade Ministries, Ministries of Heavy and Light Industry, Traffic and Post Ministries and Construction Ministries are established. It also approves the number 1949:XVI Law about the foundation of the Council of the People's Economy. The President nominates Ernő Gerő as its Chairman, and János Szita as its Secretary.

Yugoslavia / U.K. – June 8, 1949 (HWC)

British military planners include the possibility of Yugoslav neutrality in their defense strategies.

Czechoslovakia – June 9, 1949 (KCA)

Alois Petr, the Czechoslovak Minister of Transport, announces the formation of a Catholic Action Committee, sponsored by the People's Party which is "dedicated to reaching an agreement between the Church and Government", recognizing the

Archbishops and Bishops, but insisting that” the Catholic Church should not mix in secular matters.”

Yugoslavia / Albania – June 9, 1949 (WBA)

The Yugoslav Government sends a note to the Albanian Government proposing negotiations on unsettled economic questions, resulting from the breach of economic agreements by Albania.

Romania – June 9, 1949 (PIR)

The Society for Historical and Philological Sciences in Romania is founded.

Soviet Union / U.K. – June 9, 1949 (LBC)

In a speech, British Foreign Minister Bevin states that if the Soviet and Western peoples cannot live in the same system, they could at least agree on coexistence.

Albania – June 10, 1949 (KCA)

Tirana radio announces that former Deputy Prime Minister and General Secretary of the Communist Party Lt.-Gen. Koçi Xoxe received the death sentence and that former chief of the Albanian Politburo and head of State Commission Pandi Kristu received a sentence of 20 years imprisonment. Both men were charged of collaborating with Tito and attempting to submit Albania to Yugoslav rule.

Hungary – June 11, 1949 (KCA/REV)

Following the elections President Szakasits appoints a new cabinet that is dominated by Communists. István Dobi is reappointed as Prime Minister

Albania – June 11, 1949 (KCA)

Koci Xoxe is executed by a firing squad.

Czechoslovakia / Yugoslavia – June 11, 1949 (KCA)

The Czechoslovak Government announces that it has broken off trade relations with Yugoslavia and has ceased all deliveries to the country, claiming that the Yugoslav Government is deliberately withholding important export goods from Czechoslovakia.

Bulgaria / Hungary / Romania / Soviet Union / U.K. / U.S. – June 11-12, 1949 (KCA)

The Soviet Government issues notes to the U.S. and Britain, rejecting their suggestion of a joint-approach to Bulgaria, Hungary and Romania. The notes state that the three countries are accurately fulfilling the obligations assumed under the peace treaties, including those that guarantee human rights and fundamental freedoms; the notes also assert that the U.S. and Britain want to make use of the treaties to interfere in the domestic affairs of the three nations, and that the Soviet Union sees no reason to convene with the U.S. and Britain to discuss the issue.

Yugoslavia / Soviet Union – June 11, 1949 (WBA)

The Yugoslav Government sends a note requesting the Soviet Government to return the children sent to school in the Soviet Union, and now forcibly detained in the USSR, to their parents in Yugoslavia. In connection with this question, the Yugoslav Embassy in Moscow had already addressed two notes (April 20, 1949, and May 18, 1949) to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the USSR, requesting that the Yugoslav children be returned to their parents in Yugoslavia, but the Soviet Government did not answer either of these notes.

Bulgaria – June 14, 1949 (KCA)

The central committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party announces the expulsion from the party of Traicho Kostov, who was recently removed from the Deputy-Premiership on charges of nationalist deviation.

Soviet Union – June 14, 1949 (KCA)

Moscow announces the appointment of Ivan Tevosyan as Deputy Premier of the Council of Ministers and of Anatoli Kuzmin as Minister for the Metallurgical Industry. Tevosyan's nomination brings the number of Deputy Premiers in the Soviet Council of Ministers to 14.

Soviet Union / U.S. – June 14, 1949 (LBC)

It is revealed that the Soviet Union drastically reduced its chrome and manganese deliveries to the U.S. Soviet exports to the U.S. diminish, but imports increase.

Yugoslavia / Hungary – June 16, 1949 (PVC/REV)

The Hungarian press announces that Minister of Foreign Affairs László Rajk has been expelled from the Communist Party under accusation of espionage and Trotskyism. On June 19, it is announced that the State Protection Authority (ÁVH) has arrested Rajk, Szőnyi, Pál Justus and 17 others. (In fact, Szőnyi was arrested on May 18.)

Bulgaria – June 17, 1949 (KCA)

The Bulgarian Government announces that Kostov has been deprived of his seat in the Sobranje (the National Assembly) after a party inquiry into his "anti-Dimitrov and anti-Stalin" activities.

Czechoslovakia – June 17, 1949 (KCA)

The Catholic Action Committee holds its first meeting, unanimously electing Ferdinand Pujman, director of the National Theater, as Chairman and Torok, a layman and member of the National Assembly, as General Secretary.

Hungary / Yugoslavia – June 18, 1949 (KCA)

The Hungarian Government breaks trade relations with Yugoslavia, annulling the five year trade agreement between the countries, declaring that Yugoslavia has withheld exports to Hungary.

Austria / Soviet Union / France / U.K. / U.S. / Yugoslavia – June 19, 1949 (WBA)

The Council of Foreign Ministers reaches a decision regarding the treaty with Austria in which the Yugoslav request for the incorporation of Slovene Carinthia into Yugoslavia is rejected. The Yugoslav request that the treaty compel Austria to pay reparations to Yugoslavia is also rejected.

Poland – June 18-July 11, 1949 (PSN)

The Warsaw Regional Military Court tries Adam Doboszynki, a National Party activist, for espionage.

Czechoslovakia / Vatican – June 20, 1949 (KCA)

In accordance with instructions from the Pope, the Sacred Congregation of the Holy See issues a decree condemning the Government-sponsored Catholic Action Committee in Czechoslovakia.

Poland – June 20, 1949 (KCA)

A spokesperson of the Polish Government announces that the State has taken over the Roman Catholic printing press as an executive measure taken under the nationalization law, adding that Church property was exempted from agrarian reform, but not from nationalization.

Czechoslovakia – June 21, 1949 (KCA)

Czechoslovak Premier Zapotocky delivers a radio speech accusing Archbishop Beran of ordering priests to participate in political actions against the Republic, warning that law and justice must be used against “marauders, provocateurs, and those who call for disorder and unrest”.

Romania – June 21, 1949 (KCA)

Áron Márton, (Hungarian) bishop of Alba Julia, is arrested.

Yugoslavia / Austria – June 21, 1949 (KCA)

The Yugoslav Government issues a statement expressing bitterness at the Council of Foreign Ministers’ decisions regarding Austria, declaring that Yugoslavia will never renounce its justified territorial claims in relation to Slovene Carinthia.

Yugoslavia / Hungary – June 22, 1949 (WBA)

The Yugoslav Government sends a note to protest Hungary’s unilateral breach of the agreement on Hungarian long-term deliveries and Yugoslav counter-deliveries. The Hungarian Government does not answer to this note.

Czechoslovakia / U.S. – June 23, 1949 (LBC)

U.S. Secretary of State Acheson claims that the procedure against Cardinal Beran in Czechoslovakia violates “the decencies of civilization”. He compares Cardinal Beran’s trial to the Hungarian, Bulgarian and other East European campaigns,

which according to Acheson are interrelated and part of a communist plan to subjugate the Catholic Church.

Hungary – June 23, 1949 (KCA)

Speaking in Prague, where he had gone to ratify the Czechoslovak-Hungarian treaty of friendship and alliance, Rákosi states that 200,000 members had been expelled from the Hungarian Communist Party, about 18% of the total.

Romania – June 25, 1949 (PIR)

The creation of the Society for the Spreading of Science and Culture takes place.

Romania – June 25, 1949 (PIR)

Decree no. 267 for the recognition of the Writers' Union as judicial entity of public utility is issued.

Czechoslovakia – June 26, 1949 (KCA)

Despite the speech given by the Czechoslovak Premier days earlier, Archbishop Beran along with other Bishops issues another pastoral letter in which he maintains the position taken up in earlier letters. The letter is read in many churches.

Hungary – June 26, 1949 (HC)

A law is passed eliminating the Law Academies of Eger, Kecskemét and Miskolc and the Law and Public Administration Faculty of the University of Debrecen.

Romania – June 26, 1949 (KCA)

Anton Durcovici, Bishop of Jasi is arrested.

Romania – June 26, 1949 (PIR)

The resolution of the Political Bureau of the CC of PMR regarding the stimulation and development of physical culture and sport is published.

Czechoslovakia – June 27, 1949 (KCA)

Following Beran's pastoral letter, three decrees are published in the Government's Catholic Clergy Gazette prohibiting Church officials from issuing such letters and from holding meetings unless authorized by the Government. It declares the most recent "political excommunications" imposed by the Church to be invalid.

Yugoslavia / Hungary – June 27, 1949 (WBA)

The Yugoslav Government sends a note to protest the violation of the agreement on joint measures regulating the hydraulic system of watercourses between Yugoslavia and Hungary.

Romania / Vatican – June 28, 1949 (KCA)

An announcement from the Vatican Secretariat of State announces that the Roman Catholic hierarchy had been eliminated by the arrest of Bishops Márton and

Durcovici. The announcement alleges that a violent persecution of the Catholic Church had been going on since 1948.

Austria – June 29, 1949 (KCA)

In an interview with the Paris Le Monde, Austrian Foreign Minister Karl Gruber expresses his satisfaction with the agreement on Austria, reached during the conference of the CFM, and expresses his hope of complete agreement on the Austrian peace treaty during the next few months.

Czechoslovakia / Finland / Poland / Soviet Union – June 29, 1949 (KCA)

Finland, Poland, Czechoslovakia and the Soviet Union sign interlocking trade agreements for the year July 1949-June 1950 involving a considerable increase in commercial exchange.

Yugoslavia / Romania – June 30, 1949 (WBA)

The Romanian Government unilaterally cancels the agreement with Yugoslavia on the policy regarding real estate in the border region, dating back to 1924.

Yugoslavia – June 30, 1949 (PVC)

A trial of espionage begins in Skopje. During the trial, five Bulgarian citizens of Macedonian descent are accused of economic and military espionage, organizing sabotage and plotting the assassination of leading Yugoslav politicians.

July 1949

Romania / Hungary – July 1949 (HC)

Petőfi celebrations were held in Shigishoara (Segesvár) at the 100th anniversary of the death of the Hungarian poet Sándor Petőfi.

Hungary – July 1, 1949 (HC)

Former left wing Social Democrat György Marosán is dismissed as a secretary of the Central Leadership of the Hungarian Workers' Party.

Yugoslavia / U.S. – July 1, 1949 (PLC)

In Belgrade a Yugoslav-American agreement is signed on Yugoslav neutrality and American economic aid. Conditions for the economic aid are, inter alia, abstaining from future claims on Trieste and from support for the Greek partisans. In line with the agreement Yugoslavia closes its Greek borders.

Bulgaria / Soviet Union – July 2, 1949 (KCA)

The Soviet Council of Ministers and the Central Committee of the Soviet Communist Party jointly issue a statement announcing the death of Georgi Dimitrov in a Moscow sanatorium.

Yugoslavia / Egypt – July 2, 1949 (OEH)

Yugoslavia concludes a trade and payments agreement with Egypt.

Czechoslovakia – July 3, 1949 (KCA)

At the request of the Czechoslovak Government, Godfrey Lias, correspondent of The Times in Czechoslovakia and Harold Melahn of the United Press agency leave the country.

Yugoslavia / Trieste – July 3, 1949 (KCA)

It is officially announced in Belgrade that from July 7, the Yugoslav dinar would become the official currency in “Zone B” of the Free Territory of Trieste, the area under Yugoslav occupation.

Romania – July 5, 1949 (PIR)

In the Arpasel commune in the district of Bihor, peasants protesting against collectivization take PMR activists hostage.

Romania – July 5-6, 1949 (PIR)

The Agrarian Commission of the CC of PMR establishes the first model-statute for the GAC’s (collective farms), with the purpose of ensuring “the victory over kulaks, exploiters and enemies of those who work.”

Soviet Bloc – July 5, 1949 (KCA)

After a two-day conference in London, attended by representatives of the émigré Bulgarian Socialist Party, the Czech Social Democratic Party, the Hungarian Social Democratic Party, the Polish Socialist Party and the Yugoslav Socialist Party, a common center of Socialist parties from Central and Eastern Europe is formed under the name of the Socialist Union of Central-Eastern Europe. The new organization is representative of all the Socialist parties in Central and Eastern Europe that have been suppressed by Communist regimes.

Poland / Yugoslavia – July 5, 1949 (KCA)

Warsaw radio announces that the Polish Government has also broken off trade relations with Yugoslavia.

Romania / Soviet Union – July 5, 1949 (KCA)

Conventions are signed in Bucharest to establish three joint Soviet-Romanian companies to control Romanian metal production, coal production, and the building industry.

Bulgaria – July 6, 1949 (KCA)

The body of Dimitrov, embalmed by the same process used to preserve Lenin, arrives in Sofia.

Poland / France / U.K. / U.S. – July 6, 1949 (KCA)

British, U.S., French and Polish Governments sign an agreement allowing Poland to participate in the distribution of monetary gold looted during the war by Germany. The amount to which it is entitled has yet to be established.

Yugoslavia / U.S. – July 6, 1949 (HWC)

A Yugoslav official informs the U.S. embassy in Belgrade that his government is “extremely anxious to liquidate the Greek situation as soon as possible”. It is the first time that the Americans are informed about Yugoslavia’s changed attitude toward the Greek question.

Germany – July 8-9, 1949 (KCA)

Without explanation, the Soviet authorities close all crossing points for road traffic between the Western and Soviet zones of Germany.

Soviet Union / U.K. – July 8, 1949 (LBC)

The Soviet Union and the U.K. sign a commercial agreement for the exchange of military material and grain.

Germany – July 9-26, 1949 (KCA)

The four Deputy Military Governors in Berlin hold joint meetings in connection with the implementation of the Paris decisions of the Council of Foreign Ministers for the establishment of a modus vivendi in Germany.

Hungary – July 9, 1949 (KCA)

The National Council of the People’s Courts rejects Cardinal Mindszenty’s appeal of his sentence to life in prison that was given the previous February. The sentence of Béla Ispánky is reduced from life imprisonment to 15 years, that of Professor Baranyai from 15 to 12 years, and that of András Zakar from 6 to 4 years. Sentences for Prince Pál Esterházy, László Tóth and Miklós Nagy remain unchanged (15, 10 and 3 years respectively).

Bulgaria – July 10, 1949 (KCA)

Dimitrov is buried with national honors in the presence of nearly 500,000 people, including top Communist leaders from several countries.

Poland / Vatican – July 13, 1949 (HDP)

The Pope excommunicates all Catholic members of Communist Parties.

Yugoslavia / Soviet Union – July 13, 1949 (PVC)

Djilas delivers a speech at Cetinje on the eighth anniversary of the outbreak of the Montenegrin uprising and praises the war efforts of the partisans while criticizing the Soviet leaders. According to British sources, the main aim of Djilas's speech is to take the wind out of sails of the Montenegrin internal opposition.

Romania – July 14, 1949 (PIR)

An agricultural tax for small and medium households is established. The Law contributes to the containment of the economic power of kulaks and to the limitation of the exploitation of the masses of working peasantry, obliging kulaks to

hand over to the state a significant part of their revenues, created through the exploitation of rural paupers.

Czechoslovakia – July 15, 1949 (KCA)

The Czechoslovak Government issues the text of a new Church Law applicable to all religious denominations, providing for full State control over churches.

Yugoslavia / U.S. – July 16, 1949 (LUY)

It becomes known that the World Bank has agreed in principle to make a token loan to Yugoslavia. Later in the month it dispatches a study mission to survey Yugoslav needs in regard to the larger request.

Czechoslovakia – July 17, 1949 (KCA)

A proclamation affirming the loyalty of the Czechoslovak priests to Archbishop Beran and disowning the government-sponsored Catholic Action Committee is read in a number of churches throughout the country, including the Cathedral of St. Vitus.

Romania – July 17, 1949 (PIR)

Members of an armed resistance group (attorney Spiru Blănaru, commander Petre Domoşneanu, Ion Tănase, Petre Puşchiţă, Romulus Marişescu) active in Banat in 1948-1949 are executed.

Czechoslovakia – July 18, 1949 (KCA)

After their appeals against their conviction for treason, espionage, and sabotage were rejected, the five men sentenced to death on June 9 for alleged conspiratorial contact with Captain Wildash, the former British military permit officer in Prague, are executed.

Romania – July 18, 1949 (PIR)

Leonte Rautu presents proposals regarding the organization of the party apparatus to the Politbureau.

Bulgaria – July 20, 1949 (KCA)

The Sobranje unanimously elects Vasil Kolarov, acting-Premier during the illness of the late Dimitrov, as the new Prime Minister of Bulgaria. Five Deputy-Premiers are also nominated.

Hungary – July 20, 1949 (HC)

Kálmán Pongrácz from the MDP is elected as the mayor of Budapest. His deputy is József Köböl.

Romania – July 21, 1949 (PIR)

The cereal collection regime is established. Agricultural producers are obliged to

hand over to the state, at an official price, part of their harvest, quotas being established by the State Commission for Cereal Collection.

Soviet Union / U.K. / U.S. – July 22, 1949 (LBC)

In a note to London and Washington the USSR turns down the Anglo-American invitation for a three power conference to discuss the alleged violations of the peace treaty by Hungary, Bulgaria and Romania.

Romania – July 23-28, 1949 (PIR)

Incidents occur in a number of communes in the Bihor district (Spinuș, Sarsig, Mișca, Tria, Dornișoare) during a campaign of collecting the quotas of agricultural products.

Romania – July 24, 1949 (PIR)

The first Agricultural Production Cooperatives are inaugurated.

Hungary / Czechoslovakia – July 25, 1949 (REV)

Czechoslovak Foreign Minister Vladimir Clementis and Hungarian Finance Ministry State Secretary István Antos sign the Štrbské Pleso (Csorba-tó) agreement resolving pending financial and economic issues between the two countries.

East Germany – July 25, 1949 (KCA)

The Soviets lift all restrictions on traffic along the entire frontier zone of East Germany.

Poland / Vatican – July 27, 1949 (KCA)

The Polish Government issues a statement describing the Papal edict threatening excommunication of Catholics supporting the Communist doctrines as a brutal violation of the freedom of conscience, declaring that attempts to split the nation's unity by implementing foreign directives cannot be tolerated, and threatening to severely punish all activities which disturb public order or weaken the people's democracy.

Germany / U.K. / U.S. – July 29, 1949 (KCA)

Britain and the U.S. jointly announce that the Berlin airlift will be progressively reduced from August 1.

Romania / Soviet Union – July 29, 1949 (KCA)

A new joint Soviet-Romanian insurance company is set up.

Romania – July 29, 1949 (PIR)

Peasant revolts against the collectivization of agriculture occur in several communes from the Bihor district (Ucuiș, Belfir, Girișul Negru, Tăut, Tinca, Batâr, Homorog, Marginea, etc.). 16 peasants are executed and another 295 deported.

Hungary – July 30, 1949 (HC)

An agreement on border changes between Hungary and the Soviet Union is signed by both countries in Moscow.

Romania – July 30, 1949 (PIR)

New identity cards are introduced: the identity bulletin for all citizens of Romania, a new means of sorting and arresting regime opponents.

August 1949**Soviet Bloc – August 1949 (CEC)**

During the second session of the Comecon in Sofia, agreement is reached on the common coordination of scientific and technological cooperation and of long-term economical planning.

Yugoslavia / Soviet Union / Bulgaria / Hungary / Romania – August 1949 (KCA)

The tension between the USSR and Yugoslavia is accompanied by intense radio and press attacks on Yugoslavia from Hungary, Romania and Bulgaria.

Bulgaria / Hungary / Romania / U.K. / U.S. – August 1, 1949 (LBC)

The U.S. and the United Kingdom request Hungary, Bulgaria and Romania through diplomatic channels to allow unbiased observers to ensure observation of the peace treaties and human rights.

Romania – August 1, 1949 (PIR)

A law is passed founding the Agricultural Collectives (GAC: Gospodăriile Agricole Colective, Collective Agricultural Households).

Romania – August 1, 1949 (PIR)

The Council of Ministers orders the abolition of monastic orders with educative, missionary and charitable character.

Romania – August 1-2, 1949 (PIR)

Peasant revolts against collectivization take place in several communes from the Arad district (Gurba, Şepreuş, Apateu, Sinteia Mare, Atea, Şornoscheş). 12 peasants are executed.

Yugoslavia – August 2, 1949 (PVC)

Tito speaks in Skopje on the anniversary of the proclamation of the Republic of Macedonia. He criticizes the policies of the people's democracies, and states that trade relations with the West are needed for the successful completion of the five year plan.

Yugoslavia / Hungary – August 3, 1949 (WBA)

An agreement on mixed commissions for the investigation and ascertainment of frontier incidents between the FPRY and the Republic of Hungary is signed in Subotica.

Yugoslavia / Italy – August 4, 1949 (KCA)

The Italian Minister for Foreign Trade and the Yugoslav Deputy Minister of Foreign Trade sign a new trade agreement between the two countries, supplementing the 5-year agreement concluded in 1947.

Poland – August 5, 1949 (PSN)

A decree is issued “On the Promotion of Freedom of Conscience and Religion.” It mandates prison terms for the “abuse of the freedom of religion and conscience for the purposes hostile to the system.”

Bulgaria – August 6, 1949 (KCA)

The new Bulgarian Prime Minister Kolarov relinquishes the portfolio of foreign affairs to Vladimir Poptomov.

Hungary – August 6, 1949 (HC)

A law is passed founding the Criminal Judge and Prosecutor Academy of Budapest.

Romania – August 6, 1949 (PIR)

A peasant uprising against the collectivization of agriculture breaks out in Calafindești, district of Suceava.

Yugoslavia / Italy – August 6, 1949 (KCA)

A further Italian-Yugoslav agreement is signed concerning the restitution by Italy of property removed from Yugoslavia during the war.

Poland – August 7, 1949 (KCA)

The Polish Government issues a decree that, whilst reaffirming religious freedom and freedom of conscience, administers heavy penalties for religious activities that the Government does not approve of.

Romania – August 9, 1949 (PIR)

The decree for the creation and organization of the Committee for Physical Culture and Sport of the Council of Ministers is published.

Yugoslavia / Italy – August 10, 1949 (KCA)

Carlo Sforza, Italian Foreign Minister announces that Yugoslavia has ordered the immediate release of all Italian fishing vessels which had been confiscated in recent months for allegedly fishing too close to the Yugoslav coast, indicating a further improvement in Italian-Yugoslav relations.

Czechoslovakia / Vatican – August 11, 1949 (KCA)

Church sources announce that a few weeks before, the Vatican appointed Ambrosius Lazik and Robert Pobozny as titular bishops of Appia and Neila, without seeking the approval of the Czechoslovak Government, violating the *modus vivendi* which requires government approval of all new appointments.

Hungary – August 11, 1949 (HC)

The Council of People's Economy nationalizes all theaters in the countryside.

Soviet Union / Yugoslavia – August 11, 1949 (KCA)

The Soviet Union issues a strong note to the Yugoslav Government, repudiating Yugoslav charges that the USSR was responsible for overruling, in the Council of Foreign Ministers, Yugoslavia's territorial claims on Austria, declaring that the Soviet Union regarded Yugoslavia "not as a friend and ally, but as an enemy and an opponent" of the Soviet Union.

Yugoslavia – August 11, 1949 (ACY)

In an interview with an Associated Press correspondent, Patriarch Gavrilo emphasizes that the Serbian Orthodox Church is completely loyal to the state and the government, and does not concern itself with politics or political parties. He also adds that there is no conflict between the government and the church.

Hungary / France – August 13, 1949 (KCA)

Zoltán Szántó is announced as Mihály Károlyi's successor as Hungarian minister in Paris.

Czechoslovakia – August 14, 1949 (KCA)

The two new Bishops are consecrated.

Czechoslovakia – August 14, 1949 (KCA)

When assembled at Trnava for the consecration, the Roman Catholic bishops in Czechoslovakia draw up a memorandum stating their grievances and laying down their conditions for a settlement of the Church-State conflict.

West Germany – August 14, 1949 (PLC)

At the general elections in West Germany, the CDU receives 31% of the votes, the SPD 29.2%. Participation rate: 78.5%.

Hungary – August 14-28, 1949 (HC)

The Second World Festival of Youth and Students takes place in Budapest with 10,000 participants from 82 countries.

Bulgaria – August 15, 1949 (KCA)

General Blagoje is appointed Minister of Public Works replacing Sakelarov, whose resignation for reasons of health is announced at the same time.

Romania – August 15, 1949 (KCA)

By law, all Roman Catholic welfare support in Romania is dissolved.

Yugoslavia – August 16, 1949 (KCA)

Radenko Stankovic and Ivo Petrovic, who were members of the Council of Regency which ruled Yugoslavia from 1934-1941, are sentenced to 12 and 11 years imprisonment by a Belgrade court on charges of having made Yugoslavia economically dependent on Germany, promoting a pro-Fascist policy, and supporting pre-war Governments which ruled by undemocratic and terrorist methods.

Yugoslavia / U.S. – August 16, 1949 (LUY)

Ambassador Sava Kosanović informs U.S. Secretary of State Dean Acheson of Yugoslavia's economic problems. The following day the United States grants Yugoslavia permission to purchase a \$3 million steel finishing mill from Youngstown Sheet and Tube Co.

Czechoslovakia – August 17, 1949 (KCA)

Archbishop Beran, who had been confined to his palace since June 19, publishes a letter dating August 5, protesting his internment, the presence of government agents in his office, and the seizure of his funds and estates.

Poland / Soviet Union – August 17, 1949 (PLC)

A Polish-Soviet treaty is signed finalizing the division of East Prussia.

Yugoslavia / Hungary – August 17, 1949 (PVC)

Yugoslavia protests the expulsion of the Yugoslav delegate of the World Festival of Students and Youth from Hungary.

Yugoslavia / U.S. – August 17, 1949 (PVC)

A delegation of the World Bank arrives in Belgrade.

Czechoslovakia / UK – August 18, 1949 (KCA)

Britain and Czechoslovakia sign a new payment agreement, replacing their Monetary Agreement of November 4, 1945.

Hungary – August 18, 1949 (HC/REV)

The Hungarian Parliament approves the new constitution of the Hungarian People's Republic. It is based on the Soviet constitution, and secures the right to employment and bread.

Yugoslavia / Soviet Union – August 18, 1949 (KCA/PVC/WBA)

The Soviet Government condemns the alleged ill treatment of Soviet citizens in Yugoslavia. The statement is a reply to the Yugoslav arrest of Soviet citizens on July 30.

Hungary – August 23, 1949 (HC)

The Parliament elects a Presidential Council headed by President Árpád Szakasits.

Hungary / Yugoslavia – August 23, 1949 (PVC)

All traffic through Trieste to and from Hungary is diverted by the Hungarian authorities along Tarvisio, thereby avoiding Yugoslav territory.

Yugoslavia / U.K. – August 24-25, 1949 (HWC)

Agreement is reached within an inner Cabinet consisting of Attlee, Harold Wilson of the Board of Trade, and Bevin, agreeing that the Yugoslavs should be given a medium-term credit of £8 million and a short-term credit of £5 million. The trade agreement is eventually signed on 26 December 1949.

Bulgaria / Soviet Union – August 24, 1949 (OSA)

A joint resolution of the CC and BCP and the Council of Ministers declares that education should be carried out following the spirit of socialism based on Marxist-Leninist teaching and the support of the Soviet Union. Indeed, the resolution urges “the use of the rich experience of the Soviet Union.”

Albania – August 26, 1949 (KCA)

The formation of a Committee for Free Albania comprising a number of anti-Communist Albanian groups and persons in exile is announced in Paris.

Hungary – August 26, 1949 (HC/REV)

A law is passed ordering the elimination of the food ticket system, starting September 1, but precluding refined flour.

Soviet Union – August 28, 1949 (PLC)

The abolition of the Ukrainian Unitus Church is declared in Munkacevo (Munkács).

Yugoslavia / U.K. / Hungary – August 28, 1949 (PVC)

British Ambassador to Yugoslavia Charles Peake meets Aleš Bebler. Their conversation raises the possibility of reporting to the UN Security Council Yugoslavia’s fears of Soviet Army manoeuvres (notably in Hungary).

Soviet Union – August 29, 1949 (PLC)

In Semipalatinsk, Kazakhstan, the first Soviet atomic bomb is tested. The United States loses its monopoly of nuclear weapons; the nuclear arms race begins. The Soviet Union announces the news on September 25.

Czechoslovakia – August 30, 1949 (KCA)

The Czechoslovak Government announces that it has discovered and frustrated an insurrectionary plot to overthrow the régime; that after a trial six persons were

sentenced to death, and 10 others were sentenced to life imprisonment, and that a number of others received sentences ranging from one to 25 years of hard labor.

Yugoslavia / U.S. – August 31, 1949 (PVC)

During a press conference, U.S. Secretary of State Dean Acheson mentions Yugoslavia and states that the Soviet army manoeuvres in the neighbouring countries are being watched closely and are considered part of the war of nerves against Yugoslavia. Still, the U.S. does not plan any shipments of arms and ammunition to Yugoslavia.

September 1949

Poland – September 1949 (PLC)

A few priests in Poland found the Association of Fighting for Freedom and Democracy.

Romania – September 1949 (PIR)

The General Direction of the People's Security decides that all political detainees be liberated after the termination of their punishment, without the assent of the Securitate. However this does not include those with sentences over one year, which were deposed at the regional Securitate organs.

Yugoslavia / U.K. / U.S. – September 1949 (LBY)

The British and the Americans announce that they would regard an attack on Yugoslavia as an action that would require Western response. The terms of this response are left deliberately vague.

Yugoslavia / Czechoslovakia / Greece – September 1949 (SGY)

Facing problems with the Cominformist activities of Greek refugees in Yugoslavia, the Yugoslav leaders decide to let a number of them emigrate to Czechoslovakia via Hungary.

Romania – September 1, 1949 (PIR)

Decree no. 362 regarding the dissolution and liquidation of enterprises and insurance societies is approved.

Soviet Union / Yugoslavia – September 2, 1949 (KCA)

The Yugoslav Government announces that the agreements of February 4, 1947, which established mixed Soviet-Yugoslav corporations for civil aviation and Danube navigation, have been dissolved at the request of Yugoslavia.

Yugoslavia – September 2, 1949 (PVC)

The Yugoslav press denies the accusations that riots take place at Rijeka and Pula.

Hungary – September 3, 1949 (HC)

The meeting of the Central Leadership of the Hungarian Worker's Party takes place

in Budapest. A report is delivered about the Rajk case and about ‘Imre Nagy’s right wing and opportunist deviationism’.

Hungary – September 5, 1949 (HC)

The Presidential Council reelects the government that resigned after the establishment of the new Constitution.

Hungary – September 5, 1949 (REV)

Compulsory religious education in schools is abolished.

Yugoslavia / Albania – September 5, 1949 (WBA)

The Yugoslav Government sends a note proposing to the Albanian Government the conclusion of an agreement on the investigation of border incidents.

Yugoslavia / U.K. – September 5, 1949 (PVC)

The British Embassy in Belgrade informs the Foreign Office that the Yugoslav Chief of Staff is requesting a meeting with the British military attaché, probably in connection with the Soviet army manoeuvres. In its reply, the Foreign Office urges the Embassy to act in caution and reserve.

Hungary – September 10, 1949 (HC)

The Central Leadership of the Hungarian Worker’s Party announces that it excludes Zoltán Horváth, Pál Justus, and György Pálffy as foreign spies of the imperialist states.

East Germany – September 11, 1949 (KCA)

The Socialist Unity Party’s acceptance of the Oder-Neisse line as Germany’s final Eastern frontier is emphasized at a large demonstration in the Soviet sector of Berlin.

Hungary / Yugoslavia – September 11, 1949 (PVC)

The indictment in László Rajk’s trial is made public.

Yugoslavia / Hungary – September 14, 1949 (KCA)

Tito presents a strongly worded note to the Hungarian Minister in Belgrade describing the László Rajk trial as a “disgusting attack on the honour, independence and sovereign rights of Yugoslavia.”

Romania – September 15, 1949 (KCA)

A State Control Commission to be attached to the Council of Ministers is created by decree.

Yugoslavia – September 15, 1949 (PVC)

King Petar gives an interview to the Continental Daily Mail in which he describes the conflict between Tito and Stalin as a fight between two gangsters. At the given moment, he considers Tito as the lesser evil, but only asks for cautious help.

Yugoslavia / U.K. – September 15, 1949 (PVC)

The United Kingdom renounces its compensation claim on Yugoslavia.

Hungary / Yugoslavia – September 16, 1949 (KCA)

The trial of László Rajk along with seven other defendants opens in Budapest. All the defendants are charged with conspiracy, plans to overthrow the Hungarian Government with the alleged help of Yugoslavia, plotting to assassinate Deputy Premier Rákosi and other prominent Communists, and carrying out espionage on behalf of Yugoslavia and the Western Powers.

East Germany / Soviet Union – September 16, 1949 (PLC)

The Soviet Communist Party and the SED finalize their decision to proclaim the German Democratic Republic.

Yugoslavia / Bulgaria – September 17, 1949 (WBA)

The Yugoslav Embassy in Sofia sends a note to the Bulgarian Ministry of Foreign Affairs protesting the expulsion of a delegation of Yugoslav students from Sofia that had been scheduled to participate in the proceedings of the Council of the International Union of Students.

Soviet Union / U.S. – September 20, 1949 (PLC)

American President Truman announces that the Soviet Union has nuclear weapons.

Yugoslavia / U.K. / U.S. – September 20, 1949 (HWC)

The Yugoslavs inform various Western delegations of their intention to be elected to one of the UN Security Council seats which rotate among the smaller member states of the United Nations.

Hungary / Yugoslavia – September 21, 1949 (KCA)

The Chief Prosecutor in the Rajk case Alapi calls for the death sentence for all the defendants.

Soviet Union / Canada / U.K. / U.S. – September 22, 1949 (KCA)

The U.S., British and Canadian Governments issue statements announcing that they have evidence that an atomic explosion had taken place within the Soviet Union in recent weeks.

Austria – September 23, 1949 (KCA)

The Austrian Cabinet decides to abolish all food rationing, except that of meat and rice, from September 12.

Soviet Union / U.N. / U.S. – September 23, 1949 (CWC)

Vishinsky introduces a resolution into the United Nations accusing the United States of planning for a new war. He proposes that the five permanent Security Council members sign a peace pact.

Hungary – September 24, 1949 (HC)

The People's Court releases its verdict in the case of László Rajk and his accomplices. László Rajk, Tibor Szőnyi, András Szalai receive the death penalty, Lázár Brankov, Pál Justus receive life imprisonment for crimes against the people, for spying, disloyalty, the support of the war efforts of the imperialist states and the attempt to topple democratic order. The convicted are executed on October 15.

Soviet Union / France / U.S. – September 25, 1949 (LBC)

The Soviet Union announces that it possesses the nuclear bomb. According to Acheson the foundations of U.S. foreign policy will not be changed by the Soviet possession of nuclear weapons. Charles de Gaulle claims that the fact that the USSR has the atomic bomb weakens the Atlantic Alliance. According to De Gaulle the U.S. "is neither obliged nor prepared to participate in the direct defense of our continent". France will have to take care of its own defense. He proposes a direct French-German agreement.

Hungary / Yugoslavia – September 26, 1949 (KCA)

Ten members of the Yugoslav legation in Budapest are ordered by the Hungarian Government to leave the country within 24 hours.

Yugoslavia / U.N. – September 26, 1949 (RYN)

In his speech at the U.N. General Assembly, Edvard Kardelj, Yugoslav Minister of Foreign Affairs, sharply reverses his uncritical support of the Soviet Union of the previous year and opens with a blistering attack on Soviet interference in Yugoslav affairs. It is the first time that the Soviet-Yugoslav dispute has been raised in the U.N.

Soviet Union / U.S. – September 27, 1949 (KCA)

The Soviet Ambassador in Washington and the U.S. Assistant Secretary of State sign an agreement providing for the return to the U.S. of 30 small naval vessels turned over to the USSR during the war under the Lease-Lend Program.

Yugoslavia / Hungary – September 27, 1949 (PVC)

As a reply to the expulsion of the employees of the Yugoslav legation in Budapest, nine members of the Hungarian legation are expelled from Yugoslavia.

Yugoslavia / Hungary – September 27, 1949 (WBA)

The Yugoslav Minister in Hungary sends a letter to the chiefs of diplomatic missions of the USSR, the United States and the United Kingdom, requesting the consideration of the reparations dispute between Yugoslavia and Hungary.

Yugoslavia / U.K. – September 27, 1949 (PVC)

The Russian Committee of the Foreign Office deals with the Yugoslav situation and rules out the possibility of a Soviet armed intervention against Yugoslavia in the near future.

Czechoslovakia / U.K. – September 28, 1949 (KCA)

Representatives of the British and Czechoslovak Governments sign a 5-year Trade and Financial Agreement, an Inter-Governmental Debts Agreement, and a Compensation Agreement.

Czechoslovakia / Sweden – September 28, 1949 (KCA)

The Czechoslovak Government arrests Swedish businessman Holger Hjelm.

Soviet Union – September 28, 1949 (KCA)

The American, British and French Commandants in Berlin announce that, on the instructions of the Allied High Commission, they had broken off the talks with the Soviet authorities for the normalization of the city's life, for the time being.

Yugoslavia / Soviet Union – September 28, 1949 (KCA)

In a note handed to the Yugoslav Ambassador in Moscow, the Soviet Government formally denounces the 20-year Soviet-Yugoslav treaty of friendship and mutual assistance concluded in April 1945, due to the László Rajk trial, which the Soviet Government said proved that the Yugoslav Government had long carried out hostile acts against the Soviet Union.

Yugoslavia / Hungary / U.K. – September 28, 1949 (PVC)

British Ambassador Charles Peake meets Leo Mates who assures him that Yugoslavia has no interests in completely breaking diplomatic relations with Hungary.

Germany – September 30, 1949 (KCA)

The Berlin Airlift, which commenced June 26, 1948, officially ends.

Hungary / Poland / Yugoslavia – September 30, 1949 (KCA)

Hungary and Poland denounce their post-war treaties of friendship and mutual assistance with Yugoslavia.

Yugoslavia / Soviet Union / U.K. – September 30, 1949 (PVC)

The United Kingdom sends a note to the Soviet Union suggesting that the four great powers deal with the question of Hungary's suspension of the reparation shipments to Yugoslavia.

October 1949

Hungary – October 1949 (REV)

A fourth Soviet division is stationed in Hungary at the request of Mátyás Rákosi. The 2nd Mechanized Guard Division is redeployed from Romania to Danube-Tisza region towns, with its headquarters in Kecskemét.

Romania / Hungary – October 1949 (HC)

The leaders of the Hungarian Popular Alliance are brought to justice for high

treason. Edgár Balogh, Lajos Csödör, János Demeter, Lajos Jordáky, Gyárfás Kurkó and József Méliusz receive imprisonment. They are released in 1955 (except Kurkó, who is released in 1965).

Poland – October 1949 (PSN)

International charitable organizations such as the Red Cross are ordered to stop their activities in Poland.

Yugoslavia – October 1949 (LYE)

The IMF has extended a token loan of \$2.7 million to Yugoslavia for the purchase of timber equipment. It dispatches the first of many missions to Belgrade to evaluate the investment opportunities for the larger request made earlier that year.

Yugoslavia / Soviet Bloc / U.S. – October 1949 (LKT)

The chiefs of U.S. Missions in Eastern Europe, meeting in London, agree that Tito should be assisted, but that economic pressure be maintained elsewhere in the Bloc.

Yugoslavia / Albania / Greece / U.N. – October 1949 (SGY)

A new Conciliation Committee is set up by the unanimous decision of the Fourth U.N. General Assembly. Again, the Committee's effort flounders on the problem of the Greek-Albanian frontier.

China – October 1, 1949 (REV)

The Chinese People's Republic is declared, with Mao Zedong as Head of State.

Soviet Union / West Germany – October 1, 1949 (KCA)

The Soviet Government issues notes to the U.S., British and French diplomatic representatives in Moscow protesting the creation of a separate West German State.

Soviet Union / China – October 1, 1949 (KRI)

The Soviet Union announces its recognition of the People's Republic of China and breaks its ties with Chang Kai Shek's government.

Hungary – October 2, 1949 (HC)

The University of Heavy Industry is founded in Miskolc.

Bulgaria / Yugoslavia – October 3, 1949 (KCA)

Bulgaria denounces its post-war treaty of friendship and mutual assistance with Yugoslavia.

Romania / China – October 3, 1949 (PIR)

Romania establishes diplomatic relations with China.

Yugoslavia / U.N. – October 3, 1949 (JVJ)

Yugoslav Foreign Minister Edvard Kardelj delivers a speech at the U.N.

Czechoslovakia – October 4, 1949 (KCA)

Czechoslovakia denounces its post-war treaty of friendship and mutual assistance with Yugoslavia.

Czechoslovakia – October 4, 1949 (KCA)

The Czechoslovak Government approves the text of the Church Bill.

Hungary – October 4, 1949 (KCA)

The Hungarian Government hands a note to the Western Powers protesting the creation of a West German State.

Yugoslavia – October 4, 1949 (KCA)

Minister of Interior Rankovic signs an amnesty for the release of 713 political prisoners, understood to be supporters of the Cominform.

East Germany – October 5, 1949 (KCA)

News on the foundation of the German Democratic Republic, as agreed upon September 16, is published in Berlin. It takes place on October 7.

Yugoslavia / U.N. – October 5, 19 (RYN)

The Yugoslav delegation in the U.N. submits a proposal, the “Declaration of Rights and Duties of States”, which is intended to ensure national security through elaboration and codification of the principles of the U.N. Charter. In particular, the sovereign equality of states, the right of self determination, and the guarantee of the security of each state are to be converted into formal conventions having a binding character under international law.

Yugoslavia / U.K. / U.S. – October 5, 1949 (HWC)

Josep and Stewart Alsop of the Washington Post and New York Herald Tribune and, a day later, Eric Bourne of the British Daily Telegraph, report on governmental decisions to give Tito full arms aid. This press leak deprives the Americans of any bargaining counters in dealing with the Belgrade government.

Yugoslavia / Czechoslovakia / Poland – October 6, 1949 (KCA)

Belgrade announces that eight members of the Polish Embassy and five of the Czechoslovak Embassy have been ordered to leave the country.

Romania / Czechoslovakia / Poland / Albania – October 6, 1949 (KCA)

The Romanian, Czechoslovak, Polish and Albanian governments send notes to the Western Powers protesting the establishment of the West German State.

Yugoslavia / Czechoslovakia – October 6, 1949 (WBA)

Žarko Žarković, Yugoslav Chargé d’affaires in Prague, is expelled from Czechoslovakia by the Foreign Ministry.

Yugoslavia – October 6, 1949 (PVC)

Tito delivers a speech in front of army officers and states that the peace loving Yugoslavs are fighting a heroic fight for justice.

Bulgaria – October 7-8, 1949 (KCA)

Finance Minister Petko Kunin and the Minister for Railways Stefan Tonchev are relieved of their posts by the Presidium of the Bulgarian National Assembly.

East Germany – October 7, 1949 (HC/PLC)

The German Democratic Republic is officially proclaimed. The capital is East Berlin. A peace treaty no longer seems necessary after the proclamation of both German states. The President of the newly formed state is Wilhelm Pieck, the Prime Minister is Otto Grotewohl.

Romania – October 7, 1949 (PIR)

The decree for the organization, functioning and administration of the House of Economics and Consignments (Casa de Economii și Consemnațiuni – CEC) is published.

Hungary / Yugoslavia – October 8, 1949 (KCA)

The Yugoslav Government sends a note of protest to the Hungarian Government, accusing it of acting with hostility towards Yugoslavia.

Hungary – October 10, 1949 (REV)

Nationalization of wholesale trading begins.

Romania – October 10, 1949 (PIR)

The members of the CC Secretariat of PMR discuss restructuring the investments plan for 1949, the abrogation of some laws from the war period, the establishment of locative space for state institutions, the systematization of cities, the opening of the labor faculty for the workers in forestry, and the suspension of pension rights for former landowners.

Yugoslavia – October 10, 1949 (KCA)

The International Monetary Fund in Washington announces that it had sold \$3,000,000 to Yugoslavia in exchange for the equivalent Yugoslav dinars, stating that the transaction in effect amounted to a loan from the Fund.

Hungary – October 11, 1949 (HC)

A law is passed concerning citizens of German ethnicity. It ends the relocation, eliminates restrictions on moving and switching jobs and grants them citizenship. All restrictions are lifted as of March 25, 1950.

Yugoslavia / Albania – October 12, 1949 (PVC)

Yugoslavia sends a note protesting the killing of a Yugoslav border guard at the Yugoslav-Albanian border on October 7, 1949.

Bulgaria / Hungary / Romania / U.N. – October 13, 1949 (LBC)

In a resolution the U.N. requests that the International Court give legal opinion on whether the Romanian, Hungarian and Bulgarian trials of treason violate the human rights provisions of the peace treaty.

Yugoslavia / Bulgaria – October 13, 1949 (KCA)

The Yugoslav Government sends a note of protest to Bulgaria, accusing the country of hostility towards Yugoslavia.

Soviet Union / GDR – October 13, 1949 (KCA)

Stalin sends a message to Pieck and Otto Grotewohl, President and Prime Minister of the German Democratic Republic respectively, congratulating them on their inauguration.

Czechoslovakia – October 14, 1949 (KCA)

The National Assembly unanimously passes the Church Bill.

Hungary – October 14, 1949 (HC)

Led by Mátyás Rákosi, a government delegation is established for the preparation of the 70th birthday ceremony of Stalin.

Hungary – October 15, 1949 (KCA)

Szónyi, Rajk, and Szalai are hanged after both the Court of Appeals and President Szakasits refused appeals for clemency by the defendants' lawyers.

Soviet Union / GDR – October 15, 1949 (PLC)

The Soviet Union initiates diplomatic relations with the GDR. An East German-Soviet treaty on friendship and mutual assistance is signed.

Greece – October 16, 1949 (REV)

The communist counter-government ceases its resistance in Greece, bringing the civil war to an end.

Yugoslavia / Romania – October 16, 1949 (KCA)

The Yugoslav Government sends a note of protest to Romania, accusing them of hostility towards Yugoslavia.

Romania – October 16, 1949 (PIR)

The festive opening of the exhibition “Soviet Industry” in the National Park in Bucharest takes place.

Romania – October 17, 1949 (PIR)

Aurel Aldea, former Minister of Interior (1944), dies in the Aiud penitentiary.

Soviet Union / West Germany / US – October 17, 1949 (KCA)

The U.S. rejects the Soviet notes of protest regarding the formation of the West German State.

Soviet Union / Yugoslavia / U.N. – October 18, 1949 (WBA)

At a press conference held at Lake Success, the Chief of the Soviet Delegation to the U.N., A. J. Vishinsky, Soviet Minister of Foreign Affairs, makes a statement against the Yugoslav candidacy for membership in the Security Council.

Hungary / GDR – October 19, 1949 (HC)

Hungary and the German Democratic Republic establish diplomatic relations.

Hungary – October 19, 1949 (HC)

The Military High Court of Budapest affirms the death penalties of György Pálffy, Béla Korondy, Dezső Németh, Ottó Horváth. The charges are spying, disloyalty, supporting the warring efforts of the imperialist powers, and attempting to topple the democratic order. The convicted are executed on the October 24.

Yugoslavia / U.N. – October 20, 1949 (WBA)

Yugoslavia is elected as a non-permanent member of the UN Security Council to replace Ukraine at the plenary session of the UN General Assembly.

Czechoslovakia – October 21, 1949 (KCA)

A decree places the import and export of antiques under State control, setting up a new nationalized company that will have a monopoly in the business.

Czechoslovakia – October 21, 1949 (KCA)

The Czechoslovak Foreign Ministry hands a note to the U.S. Embassy in Prague demanding that Isaac Patch, the Political Attaché at the Embassy, leave the country within 24 hours, and stating that Samuel Meryn, who does not enjoy diplomatic privileges, be placed under arrest, alleging that the two men had directed an anti-State espionage organization in Czechoslovakia.

Romania – October 21, 1949 (PIR)

The Romanian Composers' Union is founded.

Hungary / UN – October 22, 1949 (REV)

The United Nations again rejects Hungary's membership application.

Hungary / US / UK – October 22, 1949 (REV)

The managers of Standard Electric and several U.K. citizens are arrested on charges of spying and sabotage.

Yugoslavia / Czechoslovakia – October 22, 1949 (WBA)

The Yugoslav Government sends a note concerning the breach by the Czechoslovak Government of the Treaty of Friendship, Mutual Assistance and Cooperation.

Hungary – October 24, 1949 (REV)

The judiciary is reorganized. The Supreme Court of the People's Republic and the county courts are established. The Budapest People's Tribunal is abolished on November 1.

Romania / GDR – October 24, 1949 (PIR)

Romania and the German Democratic Republic establish diplomatic relations at the level of legation.

Czechoslovakia / US – October 25, 1949 (KCA)

The Czechoslovak Foreign Ministry hands a note to the U.S. Embassy in Prague demanding that another U.S. Attaché, Mr. John Heyn, leave the country within 24 hours.

Soviet Union / Yugoslavia – October 25, 1949 (KCA)

The Soviet Government announces that the Yugoslav Ambassador in Moscow, Mrazovic, who left Moscow in August and has not returned, is regarded as a persona non grata, stating that during the Rajk trial in Hungary, Mrazovic had engaged in "spying and subversive activities against the USSR".

Czechoslovakia / U.S. – October 26, 1949 (KCA)

U.S. Secretary of State Dean Acheson rejects the Czechoslovak espionage charges against U.S. officials.

Poland – October 26, 1949 (PSN)

A decree on the protection of state and official secrets is published, providing prison terms for collecting, keeping and transferring information accessible solely to authorized persons.

Austria / U.K. – October 27, 1949 (KCA)

The Foreign Office in London announces that from January 1, 1950 Lt.-Gen. Sir Alexander Galloway, British High Commissioner in Austria, will be succeeded by Major-General T. J. W. Winterton.

Czechoslovakia / France – October 27, 1949 (KCA)

The Czechoslovak Foreign Ministry hands a note to the French Embassy in Prague demanding that Colonel Georges Helliott, the French Military Attaché, and his assistant Marcel Salabert, leave the country within 12 hours, accusing them of having obtained a quantity of uranium ore and having sent 9 lbs of it to France.

Czechoslovakia – October 27, 1949 (KCA)

The U.S. Government issues to the Czechoslovak Foreign Ministry a formal denial of the Czechoslovak charges made against U.S. officials.

GDR / China – October 27, 1949 (PLC)

China initiates diplomatic relations with the GDR.

Yugoslavia / Hungary – October 27-28, 1949 (PVC)

Another border incident takes place at the Hungarian-Yugoslav border near Gyürüspuszta. According to the Yugoslavs Hungarian soldiers threw grenades on Yugoslav territory, while according to the Hungarians Yugoslav soldiers crossed the border at Donji Miholjac. They were forced back by Hungarian soldiers, and there were no casualties on either side.

Czechoslovakia / France – October 29, 1949 (KCA)

The French Government denies the charges brought against Helliot and Salabert.

Yugoslavia / Soviet Union – October 29, 1949 (WBA)

The Yugoslav Government sends a note to protest the groundless expulsion of the Yugoslav Ambassador to the USSR, Karlo Mrazović.

Czechoslovakia / France – October 30, 1949 (KCA)

Colonel Helliot leaves Prague.

Czechoslovakia / U.S. – October 31, 1949 (KCA)

As a response to the Czechoslovak expulsion of U.S. diplomats, the State Department declares that two Czechoslovak diplomats are no longer welcome in the U.S.

Hungary / Yugoslavia – October 31, 1949 (WBA)

The Hungarian Government renounces the agreement on the work of mixed commissions for the investigation and ascertainment of frontier incidents between the FPRY and the People's Republic of Hungary signed on August 3, in Subotica.

November 1949

Bulgaria / West Germany – November 1949 (OSA)

The document presents the West German trade with Bulgaria from 1949 to 1952. It contains detailed statistics of imports and exports of the most important commodities.

Yugoslavia / U.S. – November 1949 (CUY)

Edvard Kardelj, the Yugoslav Foreign Minister, visits the United States.

Yugoslavia / Greece / U.N. – November 1949 (SGY)

During the U.N. General Assembly, an important secret meeting takes place in

New York between Sava Kosanović and Sophocles Venizelos, the Greek Deputy Prime Minister.

Yugoslavia / Indonesia – November 1, 1949 (OEH)

Yugoslavia signs a trade agreement with Indonesia.

Yugoslavia / U.K. – November 2, 1949 (PVC)

Tito receives British Ambassador Charles Peake and states that he excludes the possibility of an immediate Soviet attack against Yugoslavia. During the conversation, Peake raises that the question might be taken to the UN Security Council.

Yugoslavia / Albania – November 2, 1949 (KCA)

The Yugoslav Government sends a note of protest to Albania, the only Eastern European country which had not abrogated its treaty of friendship and collaboration with Yugoslavia, listing several acts committed by Albania, warning that such acts constituted a violation of their treaty.

Soviet Union – November 3, 1949 (KCA)

Soviet Weekly announces that the Kuzntesk iron and steel mills in Western Siberia, one of the largest industrial enterprises in the Soviet Union, has completed within four years the iron and steel production targets that were originally scheduled to be completed in 1950.

Soviet Bloc / U.S. – November 4, 1949 (PLC)

The United States further restricts the exportation of strategic equipment to Eastern Europe.

Yugoslavia / U.K. – November 4, 1949 (KCA)

The Foreign Office in London confirms that the U.S. and British Governments have agreed in principle to the sale of civil aircraft, aircraft space parts, and aviation fuel to Yugoslavia.

Yugoslavia / Soviet Union – November 4, 1949 (WBA)

In its note No. 420006, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the FPRY informs the Soviet Embassy in Belgrade that it considers it impossible for Ivan Iosifovic Zenkovic, Soviet Assistant Military Attaché in Belgrade, to remain in Yugoslavia, because he has been engaged in espionage and subversive activities against Yugoslavia.

Romania – November 6, 1949 (PIR)

The law for the editing and spreading of books is published.

Soviet Union – November 6, 1949 (KCA, PLC)

Georgi Malenkov, Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers and member of the

Politburo, speaks on international and foreign policy of the Soviet Union in an address to the Moscow City Soviet on the occasion of the 32nd anniversary of the Russian Revolution. He claims that a third world war is possible, establishing communist power all over the world.

Austria – November 7, 1949 (KCA)

After the recent general elections, a new Cabinet is formed in Vienna. It remains a coalition of the People's Party and the Socialists, with Leopold Figl of the People's Party retaining the Chancellorship.

Hungary – November 7, 1949 (HC)

The rebuilt library of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences opens.

Poland / Soviet Union – November 7, 1949 (KCA)

Warsaw and Moscow simultaneously announce that at the request of President Bierut, the Soviet Government has placed Marshal Konstantin Rokossovsky at the disposal of the Polish Government for service with the Polish Army where he will serve as the Minister of National Defense.

GDR – November 9, 1949 (KCA)

The Lower House of the East German Parliament approves two Bills restoring full civil rights to former Nazis and ex-officers of the Wehrmacht, with the exception of those imprisoned for more than one year for war crimes, and granting amnesty to prisoners serving terms of fewer than six months.

Hungary – November 10, 1949 (HC)

The Hungarian Workers' Party releases a proposal about the extension of the party recruitment.

Romania – November 10, 1949 (PIR)

The CC Secretariat discusses the law regarding the practice of the legal profession and the law for the organization of state notaries.

Yugoslavia / Israel – November 11, 1949 (OEH)

Yugoslavia signs a trade agreement with Israel.

Poland – November 11-13, 1949 [PSN]

At a plenary meeting of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers party, Rokossovsky is elected a member of the CC, while Gomulka, Kliszko, and Spychalski are removed. Bierut states that Gomulka, Kliszko, and Spychalski were responsible for assigning important tasks to prewar moles in the party. The November issue of Nove Drogi accuses Gomulka of lacking confidence in the Soviet Union.

Bulgaria / Czechoslovakia / Hungary / Romania / Soviet Union / Yugoslavia – November 11-17, 1949 (KCA)

The Danube Commission, set up under the Convention signed in Belgrade on August 18, 1949, meets for the first time in order to elect officers, draft rules and procedures and discuss the organization of its Secretariat. Representatives from the Soviet Union, Bulgaria, Romania, Hungary, Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia are present. The Yugoslav representative Yovanovic and those from Cominform countries have clashes from the beginning of the meeting.

Yugoslavia / Albania – November 13, 1949 (PVC)

The Yugoslav press publishes the Yugoslav note that denounces the Yugoslav-Albanian treaty of friendship concluded on July 9, 1946.

Soviet Union / U.S. – November 14, 1949 (CWC)

The United States rejects the Soviet peace treaty proposal in the Security Council, citing the Soviet Union's past record of violating peace treaties.

Soviet Union / U.S. – November 14, 1949 (LBC)

In September the Soviet Union exports to the U.S. value 7.1 million dollar, while imports from the U.S. value only 100,000 dollar.

Poland – November 15, 1949 (KCA)

The Polish Government informs the International Red Cross delegation, which has been carrying out relief work in Poland, that it must bring its activities to an end and close its offices.

Belgrade Convention / France / U.K. / U.S. – November 15, 1949 (KCA)

The U.S., British and French Governments present notes to the Governments represented on the Danube Commission reaffirming their refusal to recognize the validity of the Belgrade Convention.

Cominform – November 15-16, 1949 (JVJ)

The third (and last) meeting of the Cominform takes place at Galyatető in Hungary. The members of Cominform agree to fight Titoism with all non-military means possible.

Soviet Union / Yugoslavia – November 16, (WBA)

The Soviet Government sends a note requesting the Yugoslav Chargé d'affaires in Moscow, Laza Latinović, to leave the country.

Yugoslavia / U.S. – November 17, 1949 (LBY)

Regarding their policy to Yugoslavia, the U.S. National Security Council adopts a rapport proposing economic assistance and the strengthening of Yugoslav resistance to a possible military attack.

Czechoslovakia – November 18, 1949 (KCA)

The Prague State Court imposes prison sentences ranging from one year to life imprisonment on 35 persons that had been found guilty of espionage.

Romania / Soviet Union – November 20, 1949 (KCA)

The Romanian Government announces its decision to dissolve the Romanian Danube Steamship Company and to transfer its fleet and other assets to the joint Soviet-Romanian (Sovrom) transport undertaking.

Austria – November 21, 1949 (KCA)

Austrian Chancellor Figl announces that the schilling will be devalued, constituting the fourth currency reform since the end of the war.

Soviet Union / Pakistan – November 21, 1949 (KCA)

Ivan Nikolaevic Bakulin is appointed as Soviet Ambassador to Pakistan.

Yugoslavia / Soviet Union – November 21, 1949 (WBA)

The Yugoslav Government sends a note of protest against the groundless expulsion of the Yugoslav Chargé d'affaires from the Soviet Union.

Czechoslovakia – November 22, 1949 (KCA)

It is announced in Prague that under a decree issued by the Ministry of Information and Enlightenment the government has frozen the sale of all second-hand books, including music scores, in an effort to purge the last remaining sources of Western literature and music in the country. Booksellers have been given two weeks to report the titles, numbers, and prices of all books in stock.

Soviet Bloc / U.N. – November 22, 1949 (HC)

The UN General Assembly rejects again the application of Hungary, Romania, Albania, Bulgaria and Mongolia.

Romania – November 25, 1949 (KCA)

The Ministry of Economy is reorganized.

Romania / Soviet Union – November 25, 1949 (PIR)

The treaty on the regime of Soviet-Romanian frontiers is concluded in Moscow.

Czechoslovakia – November 26, 1949 (KCA)

A further announcement from Prague states that another group of alleged spies has been tried for espionage and treason, that two persons have been sentenced to death, four to life imprisonment, and the others to imprisonment ranging from two to twenty-five years.

Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – November 27, 1949 (KCA)

Prime Minister of Czechoslovakia Zapotocky admits that Czechoslovak uranium deposits are made available to the Soviet Union.

Poland – November 27-29, 1949 (HDP)

The Polish Peasants' Party merges with the small pro-Communist Lublin Peasants' Party to form the United Peasant Party. It is used by the dominant Polish Workers' Party to support Communist agrarian programs.

Romania – November 27, 1949 (PIR)

The Military Tribunal condemns the 11 partisans from the colonel Ion Uță group, which had fought against the communist regime in the Banat Mountains.

Czechoslovakia – November 28, 1949 (KCA)

Meryn is released from prison and ordered to leave Czechoslovakia within three days.

Bulgaria – November 29, 1949 (KCA)

The indictment against Traicho Kostov, the former Deputy Premier and Secretary of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party, and against ten other defendants is published in Sofia. All of the accused are charged with high treason, espionage and conspiracy to overthrow the existing régime.

Hungary – November 29, 1949 (HC)

The General Assembly of the reestablished Hungarian Academy of Sciences takes place. Its chairman is István Ruzsnyák, its General Secretary is György Alexits.

Yugoslavia / Hungary – November 29, 1949 (HC)

The Radio of Novi Sad (Újvidék) begins its Hungarian language broadcasting.

December 1949

Yugoslavia / Greece / France – December 1949 (SGY)

The Greek Ambassador in Paris requests the French Government to use its influence to promote a general rapprochement between Athens and Belgrade.

Soviet Union / U.N. – December 1, 1949 (CWC)

The UN General Assembly rejects the Soviet Union's September 23 proposal that the five permanent members of the Security Council members sign a peace treaty.

Yugoslavia – December 1-6, 1949 (KCA)

Ten former Belorussian residents in Yugoslavia, who had received Soviet citizenship at the end of the war, are tried by the District Court in Sarajevo on charges of collaborating with the enemy during the war, spying for the Soviet Union against Tito's régime since the end of the war, and plotting against Yugoslavia.

Romania / Bulgaria – December 2, 1949 (PIR)

The Romanian press covers in detail the Traicho Kostov trial.

Romania – December 3, 1949 (PIR)

The Romanian House of Foreign Trade is founded.

Romania – December 5, 1949 (KCA)

A law is passed forcing all men aged 18-45 to work on road repairs for 2-20 days per year, based on income. Foreign residents without diplomatic status must do so for six months.

Romania – December 6, 1949 (PIR)

In the Pitesti penitentiary, re-education begins. The process is initiated and put into practice by Eugen Țurcanu with the collaboration of communist authorities, and lasts until August 1952.

GDR – December 7, 1949 (KCA)

The provisional Volkskammer of the German Democratic Republic unanimously passes a law setting up a Supreme Court.

Bulgaria / Yugoslavia – December 7-14, 1949 (KCA)

The trial of former Deputy Premier and Secretary of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party Traicho Kostov takes place. Nine additional former members of the Bulgarian Communist Party and a former Yugoslav Embassy Counselor are tried alongside Kostov. All are accused of planning an armed coup with Yugoslav military support, plotting to murder the former Prime Minister Dimitrov, spying on behalf of the heads of the British and U.S. military missions in Bulgaria, sabotage of the State planning, and of economic relations with the Soviet Union and other Cominform countries.

Yugoslavia / Bulgaria – December 7, 1949 (KCA)

The Director of Information in Yugoslavia issues an official statement protesting the trial of Kostov and the other defendants, declaring that the trial had been organized to justify past and present Soviet pressure against Yugoslavia.

Yugoslavia / GDR – December 8, 1949 (KCA)

The East German Ministry of Interior informs the Yugoslav Military Mission in Berlin that its members will soon be banned from the territory of the GDR.

Yugoslavia – December 9, 1949 (KCA)

All ten previously accused individuals are found guilty of working for the Soviet secret service, while six are found guilty of further charges. The men receive sentences ranging from 3 to 20 years' hard labor.

Hungary – December 10, 1949 (HC)

Parliament approves the first five year plan, dating January 1, 1950 to December 31, 1954

Hungary – December 10, 1949 (REV)

The Council of Ministers reorganizes local government. The number of counties is reduced from 25 to 19.

Czechoslovakia – December 12, 1949 (KCA)

It is announced in Prague that legislation will soon be introduced to ban private ownership of buildings.

Yugoslavia / GDR / Soviet Union – December 12, 1949 (WBA)

Acting chief of the Yugoslav military mission, Lieutenant Colonel Sibinović sends a letter of protest to General of the Army V. I. Tchuikov, President of the Soviet Control Commission in Germany, in response to the Soviet letter of December 8, 1949. The letter is left unanswered. After being expelled from the Soviet sector, the Yugoslav Military Mission sets up headquarters in the British sector of Berlin.

Hungary – December 13, 1949 (HC)

The Hungarian Scientific Council is eliminated. The highest scientific body from now on is the Hungarian Academy of Sciences.

Romania – December 13, 1949 (PIR)

The Constitutive conference of the International Union of Transportation Workers takes place.

Romania / Soviet Union – December 13, 1949 (PIR)

A delegation led by Gh. Gheorghiu-Dej and Ana Pauker visits the USSR on the occasion of Stalin's 70th anniversary.

Bulgaria / Yugoslavia – December 14, 1949 (KCA/PLC)

The Bulgarian Supreme Court reaches verdict in the Kostov case. Kostov is sentenced to death for nationalism, conspiracy against the state and Titoism. After being arrested on June 25, the trial started December 8, and he was executed December 17. After his death, in 1956, Kostov was rehabilitated. Other defendants in the case are sentenced to prison terms reaching from 8 years to life.

Romania – December 14, 1949 (PIR)

The Political Bureau approves the organization, annex to regional party committees, of the evening universities of Marxism-Leninism, which would be attended by the Russian and Ukrainian population in Romania.

Yugoslavia / Romania – December 14, 1949 (WBA)

The Yugoslav Government sends a note proposing to the Romanian Government the formation of mixed Yugoslav-Romanian commissions for the investigation and ascertainment of frontier incidents.

Albania / UK – December 15, 1949 (KCA)

The International Court of Justice awards the United Kingdom 843,947 British pounds, the full amount it had requested to receive from Albania as compensation for the damage and loss of life caused in October 1946 in the Korfu channel incident.

Bulgaria / Yugoslavia – December 15, 1949 (KCA)

The Presidium of the National Assembly rejects Kostov's appeal for clemency.

Romania / Soviet Union – December 15, 1949 (PIR)

The Anniversary Month of Iosif Visarionovic Stalin is organized by the RPR Academy.

Hungary / Yugoslavia – December 16, 1949 (WBA)

The Hungarian Government accuses the Yugoslavs of breaking the agreement on goods exchange and the related payments agreement.

Czechoslovakia / Yugoslavia – December 17, 1949 (WBA)

By arresting its leadership and searching its property, the Czechoslovak police makes impossible the work of the People's Front of Yugoslavs in Czechoslovakia, until the organization is officially banned on April 7, 1950.

Bulgaria – December 18, 1949 (PLC)

Elections in Bulgaria take place. The People's Front wins with 97.7% of the votes.

Czechoslovakia – December 19, 1949 (KCA)

The Communist Party organ Rude Pravo states that its editor, Vilem Novy, has been removed from his post for "gross lapses from Bolshevik vigilance". Vladimir Koucky is appointed acting editor in his place.

Yugoslavia / U.S. – December 19, 1949 (PVC)

The US National Security Council considers it highly unlikely that a Soviet military attack would take place against Yugoslavia in the near future. Still, on Yugoslav initiative, they are ready to bring the case to the UN Security Council after consultations with the British and the French Governments.

Hungary – December 20, 1949 (REV)

A Council of Ministers order effective on January 1, 1950 merges several adjacent towns and villages into Greater Budapest, raising the number of districts to 22.

Hungary / U.S. – December 20, 1949 (LBC)

The U.S. bans its citizens from traveling to Hungary and demands the release of the arrested American businessman, Robert Vogeler.

Hungary – December 21, 1949 (REV)

Trolleybus traffic starts with the use of the 26 trolleybuses purchased from the Soviet Union.

Hungary /Soviet Union – December 21, 1949 (HC) (REV)

Stalin's 70th birthday is a national holiday in Hungary. Andrásy út, a main thoroughfare, is renamed Sztálin út.

Soviet Union – December 21, 1949 (CWC)

Molotov gives a speech accusing the United States of fermenting another world war to cope with its internal economic crisis.

Soviet Union – December 21, 1949 (KRI)

Stalin celebrates his seventieth birthday.

Yugoslavia / U.S. – December 22, 1949 (PVC)

U.S. President Harry Truman announces in a press conference that he appoints a new ambassador to Yugoslavia by the name of Assistant Secretary of State George V. Allen. In connection with his appointment, President Truman condemns aggression against any state.

Hungary / U.K. – December 23, 1949 (LBC)

The British government breaks off trade talks with Hungary due to the arrest of a British citizen, Edgar Sanders.

Yugoslavia / US – December 24, 1949 (KCA)

The U.S. and Yugoslavia sign a reciprocal civil aviation agreement whereby the Yugoslav Government grants permission to U.S. civil air transport planes to use Yugoslav airfields and to fly across Yugoslav territory, while Yugoslavia is accorded similar facilities in the American zones of Austria and Germany.

Soviet Union – December 25, 1949 (KCA)

The trial of 12 former Japanese army officers, accused of having used bacteria in war acts against China and plotting to do so against the Soviet Union, begins before a special military court at Khabarovsk in East Siberia.

Yugoslavia / U.K. – December 26, 1949 (LBC)

A British-Yugoslav commercial agreement worth \$616 million is signed. In the framework of the treaty, Yugoslavia obtains a 22 million dollar credit for five years. Belgrade is to deliver lumber, maize, coloured metals for British wool, textile, chemicals, rubber goods, industrial equipment and two steam ships. This is Yugoslavia's largest commercial treaty with a Western state since the war.

Yugoslavia – December 27, 1949 (PVC)

Aleksandar Ranković delivers a speech at the National Assembly on the internal situation in Yugoslavia.

Czechoslovakia – December 28, 1949 (KCA)

Hjelm is tried with eight Czechoslovak nationals on charges of economic sabotage. All of the defendants are found guilty. Hjelm is sentenced to three years of hard labor, a fine, and imprisonment afterwards.

Hungary – December 28, 1949 (HC)

The Presidential Council nationalizes all factories that employ more than 10 people and factories of foreign ownership.

Hungary – December 28, 1949 (REV)

The State Protection Authority (ÁVH) of the Interior Ministry and the Army Border Guard are amalgamated into a supreme authority, still under the command of Lieutenant General Gábor Péter, responsible formally to the Council of Ministers and Interior Minister János Kádár, but in fact run directly by Mátyás Rákosi.

Yugoslavia / Soviet Union / NATO – December 28, 1949 (RYN)

Edvard Kardelj addresses the Eighth Session of the National Assembly on the foreign policy of Yugoslavia disclaiming any intention of entering into “secret agreements” or “gentlemen's agreements”. His words are intended for the Kremlin in order to try to persuade the Soviet Union that Yugoslavia is not contemplating membership in NATO.

Romania – December 29, 1949 (PIR)

MAN adopts the Law regarding the state plan for 1950. The First State Award is instituted.

Hungary – December 30, 1949 (HC)

On the József Attila Square of Budapest, the first cultural centre of the city is opened, and is named after Mátyás Rákosi.

Soviet Union – December 30, 1949 (KCA)

All of the accused Japanese men are found guilty and receive sentences ranging from two to twenty-five years in a labor camp.

Romania – December 31, 1949 (PIR)

56 collective agricultural households (composed of 4,085 peasant households and a surface of 14,692 ha, of which 3,302 ha coming from the landed fund of state property) are created.

Yugoslavia – 1950 (PLC)

The people of Cazin (Yugoslavia) demonstrate against the forced collectivization.

January 1950

Yugoslavia – January 1950 (CUY)

The Central Committee of the Communist Party of Yugoslavia adopts a resolution on education in which the Russian language education priority in schools is terminated. Russian now becomes one of the languages which might be studied along with English, French and German.

Hungary – January 1, 1950 (HC)

The Council of Ministers releases the number 4349/1050 order about the unification of Budapest and the outlying towns and villages. The number of districts in Budapest is increased to 22.

Poland – January 1, 1950 (PSN)

The functions of First Deputy Defense Minister and the chief of the Central Political Board of the Polish Army are combined. Edward Ochab, until that time First Deputy Minister of national defense, becomes Chief of the Central Political Board of the Polish Army.

Yugoslavia – January 1, 1950 (CUY)

The Ministry of Interior announces amnesty for 7,304 political prisoners, to be effective immediately. According to usually reliable American sources, those affected were mainly anti-Communist elements who had been imprisoned for “re-education”.

Czechoslovakia – January 2, 1950 (KCA)

It is reported from Regensburg (Bavaria) that Bohumil Lausman, former chairman of the Social Democratic party and Minister of the Industry in the Czechoslovak Government before the Communist coup in 1948, has crossed into West Germany from Czechoslovakia as a political refugee.

Poland – January 2, 1950 (KCA)

It is announced in Warsaw that General Mieczyslaw has been relieved of his duties as Director of Political Education in the Polish Army and is to be succeeded by General Edward Ochab.

Hungary – January 2, 1950 (HC)

The first Five-Year Plan begins.

Hungary / U.S. – January 3, 1950 (HC/REV)

The Government of the United States sends a note to the Hungarian Government,

according to which the permissions of the Hungarian Consultates of New York and Cleveland are revoked. It is viewed to be a response to the Standard-trial.

Yugoslavia / Turkey – January 4, 1950 (OEH)

Yugoslavia signs a trade and payments agreement with Turkey.

Yugoslavia / Uruguay – January 4, 1950 (OEH)

Yugoslavia signs a trade agreement with Uruguay.

Czechoslovakia / France / UK / US – January 6, 1950 (KCA)

It is announced in Prague that the Czechoslovak Government had ordered four British, U.S., and French press correspondents to leave the country within short notice, bringing the number of Western correspondents expelled in the last six months to 10.

GDR – January 7, 1950 (KCA)

The People's Congress movement in Eastern Germany transforms itself into a National Front, which is still predominately under control of the Communist party.

Hungary / U.S. January 7, 1950 (HC).

In its response to the **January 3** US note, the Hungarian Government condemns the 'new extortion attempt' of the American Government in regard to the Standard-case.

Poland / France – January 7, 1950 (KCA)

The French Government informs the Polish Government that in view of the prevailing tension between the two countries, it considers circumstances unfavorable for the opening of negotiations for a new payments agreement.

Soviet Union – January 9, 1950 (KCA)

A decree issued by the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet announces that, as the four year term of office of the existing Supreme Soviet will expire on **February 10**, general elections will be held on **March 12**.

Czechoslovakia – January 10, 1950 (KCA)

The Czechoslovak Government issues a decree banning the sale of all books published in Czechoslovakia before 1945.

Yugoslavia / U.S. – January 11, 1950 (LBC)

The State Department reveals that according to a plan approved by President Truman and the NSC, the U.S. would deliver military materials to Yugoslavia if the latter were attacked. The long-term objective of the U.S. is to bring back Yugoslavia to the family of "free European nations" and this is to be achieved through economic aid.

Poland / UK – January 12, 1950 (KCA)

It is announced in London that the British-Polish negotiations which had commenced on **February 23, 1949** on the questions of Polish compensation for British interests affected by nationalization measures in Poland, concluded without an agreement.

Yugoslavia / Albania – January 12, 1950 (KCA)

After being tried by the District People's Court, ten Cominform supporters from Yugoslavia and Albania receive sentences. One is sentenced to death, while the others receive 20 years' hard labor.

GDR – January 13, 1950 (KCA)

Difficulties in French movements from West Germany to Berlin arise.

Hungary – January 13, 1950 (HC)

The bishops of the Hungarian Calvinist and Lutheran Churches take an oath to the Constitution of the People's Republic of Hungary.

Poland / France– January 13, 1950 (KCA)

The French Ministry of Interior announces that nine Polish organizations in France will be dissolved because of evidence that their philanthropic and educational activities had been used as a cover for the dissemination of Communist propaganda. The Polish Government responds to the accusations by closing down French Institutes across the country.

Poland – January 13, 1950 (KCA)

The Polish Vice-Consul in Lyon, Chatzynski, on being recalled by the Polish Foreign Ministry, refuses to return to Poland and applies for the right of asylum in France, declaring that he is not in sympathy with the Polish Government's policy.

Soviet Union / U.N. – January 13-August 1, 1950 (PLC)

The Soviet Union refuses to attend the sessions of the U.N. Security Council, because the U.N. recognizes Taiwan as the official representative of China.

Romania – January 14, 1950 (PIR)

A law is passed allowing detainees to be sent to labor camps after their original term, to be further 're-educated'.

GDR – January 16, 1950 (KCA)

The chairman of the Soviet Control Commission, General Chuikov, informs the Eastern German Government that the Soviets are closing down the three internment camps in the Soviet zone, those at Buchenwald, Sachsenhausen, and Bautzen.

Czechoslovakia – January 14, 1950 (KCA)

The Czechoslovak Supreme Court confirms the sentence of Hjelm.

Bulgaria – January 17, 1950 (KCA)

The new National Assembly consisting of 156 Communists, 48 Agrarians and 35 Independents meets for the first time.

Czechoslovakia – January 17, 1950 (KCA)

Though the Supreme Court confirmed Hjelms's sentence, the Minister of Justice decides not to enforce it.

Soviet Union – January 17, 1950 (KCA)

Moscow announces that Mikhail Pervukhin, Minister for the Chemical Industries, has been appointed as Deputy Premier in the Council of Ministers and that Sergei Tikhomirov will assume his former post.

Yugoslavia / Bulgaria – January 17, 1950 (WBA)

The Yugoslav Ambassador in Sofia, Josip Gjergje, is expelled from Bulgaria by a note of the Bulgarian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Hungary / Yugoslavia – January 17, 1950 (PVC)

Local party secretary Imre Kiss is murdered at Lengyelkápólna, in the vicinity of Szeged. The Hungarian authorities accuse Yugoslav agent István Dobó of organizing the assassination. The Hungarian Communist Party makes the murder a good pretext for the technical fortification of the Hungarian-Yugoslav border.

Yugoslavia / Romania – January 17, 1950 (WBA)

The Romanian Government sends a note breaking the railway convention between Yugoslavia and Romania concluded on **September 2 and 3, 1946**. Owing to its offensive tone, the note was returned to the Romanian Government.

Yugoslavia / Paraguay – January 17, 1950 (OEH)

Yugoslavia signs a trade agreement with Paraguay.

Hungary – January 18, 1950 (HC)

By decree 19/1950 of the Council of Ministers wholesale trade by individuals becomes illegal.

Poland / UN / US – January 18, 1950 (KCA)

It is announced from Lake Success that Alexander Rudzinsky, legal counselor of the Polish delegation to the United Nations, has resigned from his post at the U.N. and has requested asylum in the U.S. for his wife and himself.

Poland / France – January 18, 1950 (KCA)

The Polish Government expels 21 French Nationals from the country.

Bulgaria / U.S. – January 19, 1950 (KCA)

The Bulgarian Government demands the immediate recall of U.S. Minister Heath, who is accused of having been in contact with Kostov, for actions inconsistent with

his diplomatic status and interfering in matters concerning Bulgaria's national security and sovereignty.

Czechoslovakia / Sweden – January 20, 1950 (KCA)

Holger Hjelm is allowed to return to Sweden.

Bulgaria / U.S. – January 20, 1950 (KCA)

The U.S. State Department issues a reply to Bulgaria, repudiating the charges brought against Heath, threatening to break diplomatic relations with Bulgaria if the charges are not withdrawn.

Bulgaria Yugoslavia – January 20, 1950 (KCA)

The Bulgarian Government demands the recall of Djerdja, the Yugoslav Ambassador in Sofia, and of other Yugoslav personnel alleged to have been involved in the Kostov conspiracy.

Hungary – January 20, 1950 (HC)

The Central Leadership of the Hungarian Workers' Party makes a proposal about the working competition.

Yugoslavia – January 21, 1950 (KCA)

The Yugoslav National Assembly adopts a new electoral law in preparation for the upcoming elections, calling for an increase in the number of members in the Council of Nationalities, an increase in the number of deputies in the Federal Council, and a change in the method of election to the Federal Council.

Yugoslavia / Bulgaria – January 22, 1950 (KCA)

The Yugoslav Government issues a note to the Bulgarian Government, demanding the expulsion of two Bulgarian officials in Yugoslavia and repudiating anti-Yugoslav accusations made during the Kostov trial.

Czechoslovakia – January 22, 1950 (KCA)

The Czechoslovak Government announces that 98.2% of the Roman Catholic Priests in the country had taken the oath of allegiance prescribed in the new Church Law which came into operation in **November 1949**, but that none of the Bishops have complied with the law.

Yugoslavia / U.S. – January 22, 1950 (CUY)

U.S. ambassador George Allen presents his credentials in Belgrade.

Poland – January 23- 30, 1950 (PSN)

The state launches an attack on Church power by placing a Church run charity, Caritas under compulsory administration by pro-government priests. The press publishes information about hundreds of meetings where so called "patriotic priests" condemned the Caritas leaders. On **July 30**, 1,500 persons, including 1,200

priests and monks, gather to reorganize the organization on state approved lines. At the same, time trials begin against Bonifater monks who ran a home for epileptic children for beating their wards and forbidding them to join the Polish Youth Union.

Romania – January 23-24, 1950 (PIR)

The 5th CC Plenary of PMR elects the Organization Bureau of the CC of PMR which would coordinate the activity of cadres. The Organization Bureau takes decisions on behalf of the Central Committee and modifies the party's social structure.

Yugoslavia / Romania – January 24, 1950 (WBA)

The Yugoslav Government sends a note of protest in connection with the unilateral breach of railway conventions by the Romanian Government.

Hungary – January 25, 1950 (HC)

August 20 is declared the holiday of the People's Republic.

GDR / Soviet Union / France /UK / US – January 26, 1950 (KCA)

The U.S., British and French Commandants in Berlin issue a joint note to the Russian Commandant protesting the hold up.

Yugoslavia – January 25, 1950 (ACY)

Dobri Pastir (The Good Shepherd), the association of Catholic priests in Bosnia and Herzegovina is founded at a meeting held in Sarajevo. The first Catholic priests' association was the Istrian, founded in 1948. It was followed by the Association of Cyril and Methodius in Slovenia in 1949.

Romania / Yugoslavia – January 25, 1950 (WBA)

In its note the Romanian Embassy rejects the proposal of the Yugoslav Government to establish mixed Yugoslav-Romanian commissions for the investigation and ascertainment of frontier incidents.

Romania / Yugoslavia – January 26, 1950 (PIR)

The Romanian Government sends a note to the Yugoslav Government, unmasking the imperialistic politics of the latter. It was an action imposed by Moscow as a reaction to Tito's attitude.

Yugoslavia / U.K. – January 26, 1950 (PVC)

Tito receives British Ambassador Charles Peake and emphasizes the importance of Western economic aid to Yugoslavia.

Hungary – January 27, 1950 (HC)

The Council of Ministers approves the proposal about the salaries of the public servants. According to the **March 1** law, the salaries of the public servants

increase. Salary of a Minister: HUF 3,850 , college instructor: 1,250-2,200, teacher: 500-1,620, unskilled labor: 320-600.

Hungary – January 28 1950 (REV)

The Military Supreme Court on appeal passes death sentences on Miklós Roediga-Schluga, former manager of the Hungarian-Soviet Shipping PLC, László Varga, former president, and Ernő Lux, former manager of Hungarian State Railways, and Ödön Magasházy, former chief engineer of Manfréd Weiss Works in Csepel. Mrs Jenő Pongrátz is given a life sentence. The executions are carried out on February 4.

Poland / France – January 28, 1950 (KCA)

In a note the Polish Government announces that it will carry out contracts that were already signed with France, but would suspend the placing of new orders in France under the trade agreement of 1948 until a new payments agreement is negotiated.

Yugoslavia / Bulgaria – January 29, 1950 (KCA)

The District People's Court sentences two former Yugoslav army officers who had deserted to Bulgaria in the summer of 1949 and had returned to Yugoslavia to organize Cominform sympathizers for an armed uprising. They plead guilty of espionage and of diversionary activity, and are shot.

GDR – January 30, 1950 (KCA)

The flow of traffic from Western Germany to Berlin is almost back to normal, although inspection of papers and freight are strictly carried out.

Yugoslavia / U.K. – January 30, 1950 (KCA)

It is announced in London that negotiations for a 2,500,000 British pound bank credit to Yugoslavia are completed.

Romania – January 31, 1950 (PIR)

The CC Plenary of the General Confederation of Labor is opened.

U.S. – January 31, 1950 (LBC)

President Truman instructs the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission to develop the hydrogen bomb.

February 1950

Yugoslavia / India / Burma – February 1950 (RYN)

Josip Djerdja is assigned to New Delhi as Yugoslavia's first Ambassador to India. He is also accredited as Ambassador to Burma when diplomatic relations are established in February 1951.

Bulgaria – February 1, 1950 (KCA)

After the death of Vassil Kolarov, the National Assembly elects Vulko Chervenkov to the Premiership.

Soviet Union / Japan – February 1, 1950 (KCA)

Soviet Ambassadors in London, Washington and Beijing deliver notes to the British, U.S. and Chinese Governments proposing that an international military court try Emperor Hirohito and four former Japanese generals as war criminals.

Hungary – February 2, 1950 (PVC)

A staged trial of a group of Hungarian citizens accused of the murder of Imre Kiss takes place in Szeged, Hungary. Three of the accused are sentenced to death. Two of the verdicts are carried out on the same day.

Romania / Vietnam – February 3, 1950 (PIR)

Romania establishes diplomatic relations at the level of embassy with the Democratic Republic of Vietnam.

Soviet Union / US / Japan – February 3, 1950 (KCA)

The U.S. State Department issues an official reply to the Soviet note of **February 1**, declaring that the Soviet's principle motive was to divert attention away from its failure to repatriate or otherwise explain the fate of more than 370,000 Japanese prisoners of war detained on Soviet territory.

Hungary – February 5, 1950 (KCA)

Compulsory military service in Hungary is extended from two to three years, starting at the age of 20.

Hungary – February 5, 1950 (HC)

The National Planning Office publishes a report on the execution of the Five-Year Plan.

Romania / Soviet Union – February 5, 1950 (PIR)

The Romanian and Soviet Governments conclude a convention regarding the deployment of Soviet specialists in Romania.

Poland / France – February 6, 1950 (KCA)

In Szczecin the trial of two French and four Polish citizens on charges of espionage begins. It is reported that all of the defendants plead guilty.

GDR – February 8, 1950 (KCA)

The *Volkskammer* (Lower House) of the Eastern German Parliament passes a law establishing a Ministry of State Security.

China / Soviet Union / Japan – February 8, 1950 (KCA)

The Chinese Communist Government in Beijing announces its support for the Soviet proposal for the arrest and trial of Emperor Hirohito as a war criminal.

Soviet Union / U.S. – February 8, 1950 (LBC)

Secretary of State Acheson rejects proposals for a Soviet-American atomic agreement prior to the development of the hydrogen bomb.

GDR – February 11, 1950 (KCA)

The Western Commandants in Berlin accuse the Soviet authorities of banning the export of scrap metal from Berlin to West Germany in defiance of the Paris agreement for lifting the blockade.

Czechoslovakia – February 14, 1950 (KCA)

The Czechoslovak Cabinet issues a decree for the creation of a single State Bank that will incorporate the four existing Government-owned banks.

Poland / France – February 14, 1950 (KCA)

At the trial in Szczecin (**February 6**) all of the prisoners previously tried are found guilty. One man receives death while the others receive sentences ranging from 8 to 15 years' imprisonment.

Soviet Union / U.K. / U.S. – February 14, 1950 (LBC)

Former British Prime Minister Churchill proposes a summit between Stalin, Truman and the forthcoming British Prime Minister in order to forestall an atomic arms race. Former Foreign Secretary Eden comes up with a similar proposal.

Soviet Union / China – February 14, 1950 (PLC)

As a result of the December 16, 1949-February 14, 1950 Moscow visit of Mao Zedong, a Chinese-Soviet agreement on friendship and mutual assistance is signed for 30 years, invalidating the 1945 Stalin-Csang Kai-Shek agreement. The economic terms of this agreement are unfavorable to the Chinese side.

Romania – February 15, 1950 (KCA)

The Romanian Government issues a decree effective from April 1, prohibiting lawyers from engaging in private legal practice, placing them under the control of the Ministry of Justice.

Soviet Union / France / U.K. / U.S. – February 15, 1950 (LBC)

In a reaction to Churchill's February 14 proposal, British Foreign Secretary Bevin states that arms limitation has to be realized through the U.N. U.S. President Truman announces his willingness to receive Stalin in Washington, but refuses the idea of a tripartite meeting.

Romania / Indonesia – February 16, 1950 (PIR)

The Romanian Government recognizes the United States of Indonesia, establishing diplomatic relations at the level of embassy.

Hungary / UK / US – February 17, 1950 (KCA)

The trial of Robert Vogeler, Edgar Sanders, and five Hungarians opens in Budapest. It is reported that all defendants plea guilty.

Romania – February 17, 1950 (PIR)

The Council of Ministers approves the Statute for the organization and functioning of the RPR Academy.

Romania – February 18, 1950 (PIR)

The State Committee for the Collection of Agricultural Products is founded. The Committee would compile plans for the collection, contracting and purchasing of agricultural products and would run the operations of collecting the mandatory deliveries of agricultural products.

Bulgaria / U.S. – February 20, 1950 (KCA)

The U.S. breaks off diplomatic relations with Bulgaria after it refused to withdraw the accusations it expressed towards U.S. Minister Heath.

Czechoslovakia / US – February 20-28, 1950 (KCA)

Six U.S. Mormon missionaries are expelled from Czechoslovakia on grounds that they constituted a danger to the safety and security of the State, bringing the number of Mormons expelled from the country to 19 since **May 1949**.

Yugoslavia – February 20, 1950 (PVC)

The British Embassy in Belgrade reports on Tito's latest speech during the election campaign. Tito is unusually honest of the problems facing Yugoslavia, but states that only unconditional trade is possible with the West.

Yugoslavia / U.K. – February 20, 1950 (PVC)

The United Kingdom and Yugoslavia agree that in the future British tourists can visit and travel freely in Yugoslavia.

Hungary / UK / US – February 21, 1950, (HC) (KCA)

The Budapest Courthouse issues its verdict in the Standard-case. General Manager Imre Geiger and section counselor Zoltán Radó receive the death penalty, Robert Vogeler receives 15 years in prison, and Edgar Sanderst receives 13 years in prison. They are charged for spying and sabotage. The U.S. and British Governments denounce the sentences, claiming that the Hungarian Government used harsh interrogation techniques against the people on trial.

Romania – February 21, 1950 (KCA)

It is officially announced in Geneva that the Romanian Minister of Health has sent a telegram to the Director-General of the World Health Organization announcing his Government's withdrawal from the WHO, claiming that the organization does not correspond to the true needs of the people in the field of health.

Yugoslavia / Vietnam – February 21, 1950 (KCA)

The Yugoslav Government announces its recognition of the *Vietminh* régime of Ho-Chi-minh and its willingness to exchange diplomatic representatives.

Bulgaria / Sweden / U.S. – February 22, 1950 (KCA)

It is announced that Sweden will represent U.S. interests in Bulgaria.

Hungary – February 22, 1950 (HC)

At its ceremonious session, the Presidential Council approves the proclamation of the World Congress of the Peace Supporters and makes a proposal about defending peace.

Bulgaria / Yugoslavia – February 22, 1950 (WBA)

The Bulgarian General Administration of Posts unilaterally breaks the protocol on the provisional regulation of postal and telecommunication services between the postal administrations of Bulgaria and Yugoslavia. The breach takes effect on **March 1, 1950.**

Yugoslavia / Australia – February 22, 1950 (OEH)

Yugoslavia enters into agreement with Australia about the unfreezing of Yugoslav properties seized during World War II.

Bulgaria / Poland / U.S. – February 23, 1950 (KCA)

It is announced that the Polish Government will represent Bulgarian interests in the U.S.

Hungary / UK / US – February 23, 1950 (KCA)

The Hungarian Government requests that Britain and the U.S. should reduce the staff of their legations in Budapest.

Bulgaria / U.S. – February 27, 1950 (LBC)

The U.S. State Department bans U.S. citizens from traveling to Bulgaria.

Czechoslovakia – February 24, 1950 (KCA)

A three-day session of the Central Committee of the Communist Party begins and is addressed by President Gottwald and Ladislav Kopriva, both calling for vigilance against "Titoist agents and imperialist spies" who were said to have penetrated the party.

Bulgaria / U.S. – February 25, 1950 (KCA)

The U.S. Attorney-General announces the freezing of Bulgarian, Hungarian and Romanian bank accounts and other assets in the country, explaining that the action is being taken because of the delays in the payment of American claims in those three countries.

Hungary – February 25-26, 1950 (HC)

The first national meeting of the Stakhanovites takes place in Budapest.

Soviet Union – February 25, 1950 (KCA)

Moscow radio announces that the Soviet Government has created a Ministry of Navy separate from the Ministry of the Armed Forces, which had been renamed the War Ministry.

Yugoslavia / Brazil – February 25, 1950 (OEH)

Yugoslavia signs a trade agreement with Brazil.

Hungary – February 26, 1950 (KCA)

It is officially announced in Budapest that Gyula Ortutay, the Minister of Education and Religious Affairs, and István Kossa, the Minister of Finance, had resigned on **February 24**. The Government announces a number of other Cabinet changes.

Romania – February 26, 1950 (PIR)

A decision of the CC of PMR and of the Council of Ministers is taken on measures for the increase in labor productivity and for the improvement in the living conditions of workers, technicians and clerks.

Hungary / U.K. – February 27, 1950 (KCA)

In a note to the Hungarian Government, Britain refuses to comply with Hungary's request made on **February 23**.

Poland – February 27, 1950 (KCA)

The Polish Government issues a statement accusing the Roman Catholic Bishops of trying to preserve the hierarchy's medieval privileges in Poland, but also promises protection to patriotic priests. At the same time it states that the Government will respect religious freedom, but gives warnings that relations between Church and State could not be normalized.

Yugoslavia – February 27, 1950 (PVC)

Tito delivers a speech at the third congress of the Serbian People's Front. He makes no reference to the Western powers but emphasizes the independence of Yugoslavia.

Czechoslovakia – February 28, 1950 (KCA)

The Minister of Interior announces that a Communist Deputy, Andrew Roba, has

been deprived of his seat in the National Assembly and that two others have resigned.

Soviet Union – February 28, 1950 (KCA)

The Soviet Government announces that the rouble will be revalued against sterling and the U.S. dollar, and will henceforth be placed on a gold basis.

March 1950

Poland – March 1950 (PLC)

The Polish administration is restructured following the Soviet model.

Hungary – March 1950 (REV)

Construction of the forced labour camp at Recsk begins. Most of those held there have not been tried or in some cases have suffered internment. The first 100–200 prisoners begin to raise primitive huts. The perimeter is guarded by the Internal Force of the State Protection Office (ÁVH).

Poland – March 1950 (PSN)

Poland withdraws from the International Monetary Fund and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD), calling them instruments of American imperialism.

East Germany / U.K. / Soviet Union – March 1, 1950 (KCA)

It is announced in London that the British Government, having failed to obtain satisfaction from the Soviet Control Commission in Berlin, has sent a note to the Soviet Government requesting it to fulfill its obligation to protect British interests and property in the Soviet zone of Berlin.

Romania / Bulgaria – March 1, 1950 (PIR)

A delegation of the People's Republic of Bulgaria arrives for the Romanian-Bulgarian festival.

Yugoslavia / U.S. – March 1, 1950 (LYE)

A second Eximbank credit of \$20 million is authorized to include cotton and other raw materials desperately needed for consumer goods.

Czechoslovakia / The Netherlands – March 2, 1950 (KCA)

The trial of Dutch businessman Johannes Louwers on charges of treason, espionage and sabotage along with nine Czechoslovak nationals begins in Prague. Three other Czechoslovak nationals are charged *in absentia*. Eight of the defendants, including Louwers, plead guilty.

Romania / UK / US – March 3, 1950 (KCA)

Following a request from the Romanian Government, the British Information

Office in Bucharest and the library maintained by the U.S. Services of Information are closed down to “protect national interests”.

Romania – March 3, 1950 (PIR)

The Plenary session of the CC of UTM takes place.

Bulgaria / U.S. – March 4, 1950 (KCA)

The U.S. State Department publishes an affidavit said to have been prepared by Mihail Shipkov, a former translator at the U.S. Legation in Sofia, which describes how he had been forced to confess to charges of treason by the police.

Hungary / US – March 4, 1950 (KCA)

In a note to the Hungarian Government, the U.S. refuses to comply with Hungary’s request of **February 23**.

Soviet Union – March 5, 1950 (PLC)

Roman Suhevic, the head of the UPA dies in a battle near Lvov. The anti-Soviet partisan fight in West Ukraine is practically over.

Albania – March 6, 1950 (KCA)

Albania notifies the World Health Organization of its withdrawal from the organization.

Bulgaria / US – March 6, 1950 (KCA)

The trial of Shipkov and four other Bulgarians opens in Sofia. All of the defendants reportedly plead guilty to charges of supplying U.S. Minister Heath and members of U.S. intelligence services with information on Bulgarian military installations, airports and factory productions; spreading rumors intended to damage the régime; and illegally attempting to cross the frontier to continue activities abroad. All of the defendants are found guilty. Sentences ranging from 4 years and 5 months, to 15 years imprisonment are given.

Poland – March 6, 1950 (KCA)

The Polish Prime Minister submits to the National Assembly the draft for a law to nationalize all Church estates of more than 100 hectares.

Czechoslovakia / The Netherlands – March 7, 1950 (KCA)

The Czechoslovak Government demands the recall within eight days of three officials at the Netherlands Legation.

Hungary – March 7, 1950 (HC)

The number 70/1950 order of the Council of Ministers is released about the official news agency MTI to be turned into an independent organization and about the establishment of the Office of the Hungarian Radio.

Czechoslovakia / The Netherlands March 8, 1950 (KCA)

The Dutch Government demands the recall of two officials at the Czechoslovak Legation at The Hague within 8 days.

Romania / France / Italy – March 8, 1950 (KCA)

French and Italian cultural centers in Bucharest close down to avoid compulsory closure.

Hungary / UK – March 9, 1950 (KCA)

The Hungarian Government declares Lt.-Col. Capron and Mr. Southby *personae non grata* for their implication in the Sanders-Vogeler trial and demands that the British Council cease its activities in Hungary. The British Government fulfills the demand on March 10.

Hungary / US – March 10, 1950 (KCA) (HC)

The Hungarian Government demands the recall of three American diplomats, Colonel Kraft, Lt-Col. Hoyne and Major Griffin for their implication in the Sanders-Vogeler trial. The United States fulfills the demand on March 13.

Hungary – March 11, 1950 (HC)

The Council of Ministers decides to eliminate the People's Court until March 31.

Austria / Soviet Union – March 11, 1950 (PVC)

British diplomats report from Vienna that the Austrian Government will not regard the Belorussian émigrés as political refugees. Therefore, it will forbid to grant them entry visas.

Hungary / U.K. – March 12, 1950 (KCA)

The Foreign Office in London announces that the staff of the British Council will be recalled from Budapest.

Hungary / US – March 13, 1950 (KCA)

The U.S. State Department announces that Kraft and Griffin will leave Budapest and that Griffin, currently on leave, will not return to Hungary.

GDR – March 13, 1950 (KCA)

After a special meeting in Berlin, the East German Government adopts a resolution condemning agreements between France and the Saar, describing them as an “open and brutal annexation of the Saar by a foreign imperialist power”.

Yugoslavia / Italy – March 13, 1950 (KCA)

The Yugoslav Government announces that the Yugoslav zone of Trieste, Zone B, has been completely incorporated into the Yugoslav economy.

Czechoslovakia / The Netherlands – March 14, 1950 (KCA)

In the trial that started on **March 2**, all of the defendants are found guilty. Louwers

is sentenced to life imprisonment, while other sentences range from three to 25 years imprisonment.

Czechoslovakia – March 14, 1950 (KCA)

It is officially announced in Prague that the Czechoslovak Foreign Minister Vladimir Clementis has resigned and was succeeded by Vilem Siroky. No reason was given for his resignation.

Poland – March 15, 1950 (KCA)

The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development and the International Monetary Fund in Washington announce that Poland has withdrawn from membership of both organizations.

Soviet Union / France – March 15, 1950 (KCA)

The Soviet Union hands a note to the French Ambassador in Moscow denying that any French prisoners of war are still in the Soviet Union. It also states that about 200,000 Soviet citizens are awaiting repatriation in France and in the French zones of Germany and Austria.

Hungary – March 16, 1950 (REV)

A Government order declares Easter Monday a working day. Epiphany, Ascension Day and the Feast of Saint Peter and Paul ceased to be public holidays already in 1949.

Soviet Bloc / U.S. – March 16, 1950 (LBC)

Acheson announces his three point peace plan. It includes peace treaties with Germany, Austria and Japan, the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Eastern Europe and free elections in the region.

Poland / U.K. – March 17, 1950 (KCA)

Poland and the U.K. review the first year of their trade agreement and make arrangements for the following year.

Romania / U.K. – March 17, 1950 (KCA)

It is announced in London that the British Government has presented a note to the Romanian Government calling for the closure of the information office of the Romanian Legation in London and the suspension of the publication *Romanian News* produced by that office.

Romania – March 17, 1950 (PIR)

Teohari Georgescu, Chivu Stoica and Iosif Chişinevski become Deputy Prime Ministers.

Yugoslavia / Mexico – March 17, 1950 (OEH)

Yugoslavia signs a trade agreement with Mexico.

Soviet Union / Egypt – March 18, 1950 (KCA)

It is announced in Cairo that Egypt will receive 100,000 tons of wheat from the Soviet Union in return for an unspecified amount of short staple cotton.

Romania – March 19-21, 1950 (PIR)

Following the congress of the Consumption Cooperative in Bucharest, the Central Union of Consumption Cooperatives (Centrocoop) is founded.

Czechoslovakia – March 20, 1950 (KCA)

The heads of all non-Catholic religious bodies in Czechoslovakia take the oath of allegiance required under the Church Law.

Czechoslovakia / Israel – March 20, 1950 (KCA)

After negotiating for several months, Czechoslovakia and Israel sign a trade agreement in Prague for an exchange of goods valued at 3,000,000 pounds sterling over the next year.

Poland – March 20, 1950 (PSN)

A law is passed giving the state control of denominational unions, particularly those of the Roman Catholic Church. The income from these estates will be used to establish a Church fund. The takeover of Catholic Church real estate is said to be a continuation of the agrarian reform.

Poland – March 20, 1950 (KCA)

The Polish National Assembly unanimously adopts a law abolishing all former organs of local government and instituting in their place a system of elected People's Councils analogous to those in the Soviet Union.

Soviet Union / France / U.K. / U.S. – March 20-25, 1950 (LBC)

There is no agreement at the Geneva meeting of the U.N. Agricultural Committee for the Western powers to purchase more Soviet grain and East European foodstocks.

Yugoslavia / Romania / U.N. – March 20, 1950 (WBA)

The Sub-Committee for Railway Transport of the U.N. European Economic Commission passes Resolution No. 34 noting that the break in railway traffic between Yugoslavia and Romania is harmful to international traffic, and calls upon the Romanian Government to explain the reasons behind its decision.

Czechoslovakia – March 21, 1950 (KCA)

Czechoslovakia's withdrawal from the World Health Organization is announced in Prague.

Romania – March 21, 1950 (KCA)

A shuffle in the Romanian Cabinet occurs.

FRG / GDR – March 22, 1950 (KCA)

The Government in Bonn proposes a procedure for all-German elections to take place, but the Eastern German Government rejects it.

Hungary – March 24, 1950 (HC)

The Council of Ministers agrees that the Weiss Manfréd Corporations should be renamed after Mátyás Rákosi.

Yugoslavia – March 26, 1950 (KCA)

Elections take place throughout the country for both the Federal Council and the Council of Nationalities.

Bulgaria – March 27, 1950 (KCA)

The Bulgarian National Assembly decides, on the proposal of Prime Minister Chervenkov, to release Foreign Minister Poptomov and Defense Minister Damianov from their offices.

Soviet Union / China – March 27, 1950 (KCA)

The Soviet Union and China sign agreements establishing two mixed Sino-Soviet joint stock companies for the respective exploitation of oil and non-ferrous metal resources in the Chinese province of Sinkiang.

Yugoslavia – March 28, 1950 (KCA)

The U.S. Ambassador in Belgrade announces that the U.S. and Yugoslavia have concluded an agreement to lift the 1946 State Department-imposed ban on travel for American nationals visiting Yugoslavia.

Yugoslavia – March 29, 1950 (KCA)

It is announced that 93.23% of the electorate took part in the election. Representatives for the People's Front received 94.2% of the vote for the Federal Council and 93.5% in the Council of Nationalities.

Romania – March 30, 1950 (PIR)

The Holy Synod of the Patriarchy meets in an ordinary session to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the founding of the Patriarchy.

Czechoslovakia / Hungary – March 31, 1950 (HC)

According to the census held on this day, there are 367,733 Hungarians in Czechoslovakia. Of these, 354,532 live in Slovakia, the rest in the Czech areas. The number of "reslovakized" is estimated to be around 150,000.

April 1950**Bulgaria / Turkey – April 1950 (OSA)**

People from the village Goliamo Sharkovo, County Elhovo, Bulgaria, are deported and interned because some of their family members were able to escape to Turkey.

Poland – April, 1950 (PSN)

Kazimierz Puzak, Secretary General of the Polish Socialist Party Central Executive Committee, dies in prison.

Czechoslovakia / U.S. – April 1, 1950 (LBC)

The U.S. forces Czechoslovakia to close consulates in Chicago, Pittsburgh, New York and Cleveland, and reduce diplomatic staff in Washington. U.S. diplomats are recalled from Prague and the consulate in Bratislava is closed.

Hungary – April 1, 1950 (REV)

The disciplinary court of the Lutheran Church demotes Lajos Ordass from the rank of bishop.

Romania – April 1, 1950 (KCA)

A decree is issued from Bucharest prohibiting Romanian citizens from marrying foreigners except with special permission from the Romanian Government.

Hungary – April 2, 1950 (HC) (REV)

The Presidential Council declares **April 4** a public holiday. This was said to be the day in 1945 when the Soviet forces liberated Hungarian territory from German occupation by taking the last village, Nemesmedves. In fact there were German troops on Hungarian territory for several more days.

Romania / U.S. – April 6, 1950 (PIR)

Romania protests the denial of entry visa to the U.S. for the Romanian delegation to the Permanent Committee for the Defense of Peace in the RPR, which intended to take part in an international reunion. In response, Romanian authorities close the American Information Office in Bucharest.

Romania – April 8, 1950 (PIR)

Romania ratifies the Inter-European Convention of Radio-diffusion, signed on **September 15, 1948**, in Copenhagen.

Yugoslavia / Italy – April 8, 1950 (KCA)

The Italian Foreign Minister offers to commence direct negotiations with Yugoslavia on the future of the Trieste territory as a first step towards a general agreement between the two countries. However he stresses that such an agreement is conditional on the return to Italian sovereignty of Zone A and B of the territory.

Soviet Union / U.S. – April 11, 1950 (KCA)

The Soviet Government issues a note to the U.S. Government alleging that on **April 8** a U.S. bomber penetrated Soviet territory in Latvia. The note expresses the resolute protest by the Soviet Government against this violation.

Yugoslavia / Greece – April 11, 1950 (HWC)

Tito makes a confidential approach to General Plastiras, the candidate favored by Yugoslavia at the the Greek Prime Ministry election.

Hungary / U.S. – April 12, 1950 (HC)

The Government rejects the note of the United States about compensation for the nationalized American corporations.

Soviet Union / Italy – April 12, 1959 (KCA)

The TASS Agency announces that a Soviet note has been presented to the Italian Ambassador in Moscow accusing Italy of violating the reparations clauses of the Italian peace treaty and deliberately delaying a correct statement of its assets in Bulgaria, Romania and Hungary. The Italian Foreign Ministry expresses surprise at the Soviet note, rejecting every accusation.

Soviet Union / China – April 13, 1959 (KCA)

The Soviet Union and China announce that they have ratified a 30 year Sino-Soviet Treaty of Friendship, Alliance and Mutual Assistance.

Poland – April 14, 1950 (PSN)

An agreement between the Polish Government and the Polish episcopate is signed. The document has nineteen points including a guarantee of the teaching of religion in school, the continuation of Catholic charities and associations, and pastoral services in the army prisons and hospitals. The Church agrees to “teach the faithful to respect law and authority”, “counteract the efforts of underground gangs” and “oppose all efforts to provoke war”.

Hungary / U.K. – April 18, 1950 (KCA)

It is announced in London that the British Government has asked the Hungarian Government to discontinue the activities of the Hungarian Cultural Institute in London and to recall Janos Aczel, an attaché at the Hungarian Legation in London.

Soviet Union / U.S. – April 18, 1950 (KCA)

The U.S. Government presents a note to the Soviet Government stating that, based on its investigation, the Soviet military had fired on the unarmed U.S. Privateer.

Czechoslovakia / US – April 19, 1950 (KCA)

The Czechoslovak Government orders the closing down of U.S.I.S. libraries in Prague and Bratislava, demanding the recall of Kolarek, who was accused of using the libraries to disseminate untruthful reports about Czechoslovakia.

Poland – April 19, 1950 (PSN)

The Labor Discipline Act also known as Socialist Labor Discipline is passed. It provides for court imposed pay cuts of up to 25%.

Soviet Union / U.S. – April 19, 1950 (KCA)

The U.S. Senate unanimously votes to award posthumous decorations to the ten naval airmen lost in the missing Privateer.

GDR / West Berlin – April 20, 1950 (KCA)

In Berlin the Western City Assembly unanimously adopts a resolution asking for the four Commandants to agree to free citywide elections.

Romania – April 20, 1950 (KCA) (PIR)

A decree is issued from Bucharest immediately nationalizing all fixed property owned by industry, rural landowners, bankers, large commercial concerns and other “elements of the major *bourgeoisie*”. Part of the residence fund in cities is also nationalized.

Yugoslavia / Italy / Trieste – April 20, 1950 (KCA)

In an interview with foreign press consultants, Yugoslav Foreign Minister criticizes Italy’s anti-Yugoslav attitude on the Trieste question, but declares that the Yugoslav Government is prepared to negotiate with Italy.

Yugoslavia / India – April 20, 1950 (RYN)

The Yugoslav Embassy is opened in New Delhi. However, the Indian Government does not accredit a permanent Ambassador to Yugoslavia until **October 1954**.

Czechoslovakia / U.S. – April 21, 1950 (KCA)

The U.S. Government orders the closure of the Czechoslovak Consulate-General in Chicago, and repudiates the charges against Kolarek.

East Germany – April 21, 1950 (KCA)

The three Western Powers agree to the resolution of the Western City Assembly on April 20 and pass it on to the Soviet Commandant, appealing for his consent.

Soviet Union / US – April 21, 1950 (KCA)

The Soviet Government responds to the U.S. note of April 18, denying the allegations presented against the county.

Soviet Union – April 21, 1950 (KCA)

The TASS Agency issues a statement announcing the complete repatriation of all Japanese prisoners of war from the Soviet Union.

Hungary – April 24, 1950 (REV)

Árpád Szakasits, Chairman of the Presidential Council, is arrested and sentenced to life imprisonment. His successor is Sándor Rónai, also a former Social Democrat.

Soviet Union / France – April 24, 1950 (KCA)

It is announced in Moscow that the Soviet Ambassador to France Alexander

Bogomolov has been appointed a Deputy Foreign Minister in the Soviet Cabinet and that he will be succeeded in Paris by Alexei Pavlov.

Czechoslovakia – April 25, 1950 (KCA)

Prague announces a number of changes in the Czechoslovak Cabinet.

Romania / UK / US – April 25-29, 1950 (PIR)

The trial of those active in the information offices of the British and American legacies – Costica Mugur, Anny and Nora Samuelly, Eleonora Bunea-Wied, Liviu Popescu – takes place at the Military Tribunal in Bucharest. The functionaries suffer condemnations varying between 15 years to lifetime forced labor.

Romania / U.S. – April 26, 1950 (LBC)

As a reprisal for the closing of the Bucharest office of the USIS, the U.S. bans Romania's commercial office in New York.

Bulgaria / Hungary / Romania / U.S. – April 27, 1950 (LBC)

The U.S. calls on Hungary, Bulgaria and Romania to appoint members to the committee, which will investigate the alleged human rights violations of the three states.

Yugoslavia / Greece / Soviet Union / U.N. – April 27, 1950 (PVC)

Tito delivers a three-hour long speech at the opening session of the National Assembly. His speech mostly deals with economic matters and summarizes the main lines of Yugoslav foreign policy. Tito excludes the possibility of war or other kind of Soviet aggression against Yugoslavia but sees some possibilities for the improvement of Greek-Yugoslav relations. With regard to the colonies, Yugoslavia will protect the rights of the newly emerging independent states.

Czechoslovakia / U.S. – April 28, 1950 (KCA)

The Czechoslovak Government declares that the U.S. should reduce its diplomatic staff in Czechoslovakia by two-thirds on the grounds that U.S. officials are engaging in anti-state activities.

Romania / Mongolia – April 29, 1950 (PIR)

Romania establishes diplomatic relations with the People's Republic of Mongolia.

Romania – April 30, 1950 (PIR)

Admiral Gheorghe Koslinski dies in the Aiud prison.

May 1950

Yugoslavia / Greece – May 1950 (SGY)

The Greek Government makes strenuous efforts to persuade the Western Powers to pressure Yugoslavia into repatriating the Greek children taken to Yugoslavia

during the civil war as soon as possible, and to do so without making the issue subject to political negotiations.

Bulgaria – May 1, 1950 (OSA)

An additional barrack is built in the town of Ruse, Bulgaria. The Party building's project comprises the construction of a Party club, a library, and a large conference hall. The whole project is financed by the Party and by the municipality of Ruse, with the use of some voluntary work.

Hungary – May 3, 1950 (HC)

The Central Leadership of the Hungarian Worker's Party releases a letter about the establishment of the youth section of the party.

Yugoslavia – May 3, 1950 (ACY)

Patriarch Gavriilo, Head of the Serbian Orthodox Church, dies. The funeral takes place on **May 11**.

Poland – May 4, 1950 (KCA)

It is announced in Warsaw that Alexander Zawadzki, a member of the Politburo of the Polish United Workers Party and a former Governor of Upper Silesia, has been appointed a third Deputy Prime Minister in the Polish Cabinet, and that Kazimierz Mijal, former director of the Presidential Chancellery, has been appointed Minister of Communal Economy.

Soviet Union / FRG / GDR – May 4, 1950 (KCA) (PLC)

The TASS Agency issues a statement announcing that all 1.9 million German prisoners of war were released. However, it is believed that approximately 30,000 were released only by 1956.

Czechoslovakia – May 5, 1950 (KCA)

It is announced in Prague that Dr. Husak, the Communist chairman of the Slovak Board of Commissioners, along with Novomesky, another Commissioner, have been dismissed. No reason was officially given, but in a speech given at the opening of the Congress of the Slovak Communist Party, Foreign Minister Siroky declared that the two were guilty of promoting Slovak separatism.

Czechoslovakia – May 5, 1950 (KCA)

It is announced that General Drgac, the Czechoslovak Chief of Staff, has been dismissed and will be succeeded by General Jaroslav Prochazka.

Romania – May 5-6, 1950 (PIR)

Massive arrests of former ministers and dignitaries from the old regime begin. The majority of them are imprisoned in Sighet.

Yugoslavia – May 5, 1950 (PVC)

Phylis Auty interviews Tito, who replies honestly to questions about the Yugoslav situation. He talks about economic hardships and admits that in the past the authorities resorted to sheer force against those who opposed the current regime.

Yugoslavia – May 6, 1950 (BST)

On St. George's Day (Djurdjevdan), which in Balkan peasant tradition signalled the beginning of the annual hajduk (outlaw) actions against the Turks, the predominantly Muslim peasants of the Cazin frontier in Bosnia protest. The peasants try to seize the town of Cazin and march to Bihać. The rebellion is quickly subdued and nine participants are killed in the action. The authorities arrest 714 persons; 288 of them are tried by a military tribunal, which metes out stiff punishments, including 17 death sentences.

Hungary – May 7, 1950 (HC)

The number 133/1950 order of the Council of Ministers establishes independent farmers' cooperatives, and the regulations of their operations.

GDR / West Berlin / Soviet Union – May 8, 1950 (KCA)

Colonel Yelizarov presents the conditions on which the Soviet authorities will allow citywide elections in Berlin.

Hungary – May 8-12, 1950 (HC)

The Parliament approves the resignation of the Chairman of the Presidential Council Árpád Szakasits, and elects Sándor Rónai as his successor.

Hungary / U.K. – May 9, 1950 (HC)

The Government rejects the note of the United Kingdom about compensation of the nationalized British corporations.

GDR / West Berlin / Soviet Union – May 10, 1950 (KCA)

The Western Commandants reject the conditions imposed by the Soviets regarding citywide elections in Berlin.

Hungary – May 10, 1950 (KCA)

Geiger and Radó are executed after being found guilty of espionage in the Standard trial.

Poland / Soviet Union – May 10, 1950 (PSN)

Poland is the first state to sign the Stockholm Appeal for the elimination of nuclear weapons.

Hungary / UK / US – May 11, 1950 (KCA)

The Hungarian Supreme Court rejects the appeal in the case of Vogeler and Sanders, and confirms their sentences.

Hungary – May 11, 1950 (HC)

Parliament approves a law establishing local councils.

Yugoslavia / U.S. – May 11, 1950 (CUY)

The CIA prepares its latest evaluation on Yugoslavia, titled “Evaluation of Soviet-Yugoslav Relations, 1950”.

Czechoslovakia / UK – May 12, 1950 (KCA)

The Czechoslovak Government orders the closing down of the British Information Office in Prague and of the British Council’s offices in Prague, Bratislava and Brno, denouncing the British-Czechoslovak cultural agreement of June 1947.

Czechoslovakia / US – May 13, 1950 (KCA)

The U.S. reduces its staff in Czechoslovakia as requested and orders a similar cut in the number of Czechoslovak diplomatic officials in the U.S. It demands the closure of Czechoslovak consulates in Cleveland and Pittsburg.

Soviet Union / Iran / US – May 14, 1950 (KCA)

The Soviet Ambassador in Teheran issues a note to the Iranian Foreign Ministry protesting the alleged employment of foreign, and especially American, engineers by the Iranian Oil Company.

Czechoslovakia / UK – May 15, 1950 (KCA)

The British Government orders the closing of the Czechoslovak Institute in London.

Yugoslavia / Greece – May 15, 1950 (KCA)

It is announced that the Greek and Yugoslav Governments have decided to set up a joint commission to discuss the linking of Greek and Yugoslav railway, postal, telegraphic and telephone communications.

Yugoslavia – May 15, 1950 (KCA)

The central committee of the Yugoslav Trade Federation decides to withdraw from the World Federation of Trade Unions until the latter alters its policy and “hostile” attitude towards Yugoslavia.

Yugoslavia / Soviet Union / U.K. – May 15, 1950 (PVC)

Another discussion takes place between Tito and British Ambassador Charles Peake. Tito again excludes the possibility of a Soviet military attack against Yugoslavia in 1950.

GDR / Soviet Union – May 16, 1950 (KCA)

The Soviet Union agrees to a reduction in German reparations from current production to one-half of the amount following a request from the East German Government.

Yugoslavia / Greece – May 16, 1950 (SGY)

The Yugoslav Foreign Minister addresses the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Yugoslav National Assembly and reaffirms the decision of his government to improve relations with Greece.

Romania – May 17, 1950 (PIR)

General Henry Cihosky, former Minister of War (1928-1930), dies in the Sighet prison.

Hungary / U.K. – May 18, 1950 (KCA)

The Hungarian Government hands a note to the British Minister in Budapest declaring three British personnel to be *personae non gratae*, demanding their recall by May 23.

Hungary / UK – May 19, 1950, (HC) (KCA)

The British Government requests that János Nagy, an attaché at the Hungarian Legation in London, leave the country before May 23.

Hungary – May 19, 1950 (KCA)

The Hungarian Government announces its withdrawal from the World Health Organization. The Council of Ministers says that the organization does not support health institutions but imposes high membership fees.

Soviet Union / Iran – May 19, 1950 (KCA)

The Iranian Government issues a reply to the Soviet note, expressing surprise at the Soviet concern over a purely Iranian domestic matter.

Hungary – May 20, 1950 (REV)

In connection with the Rajk trial, the Supreme Court convicts Ferenc Vági, Press Department head at the Prime Minister's Office, of spying and conspiracy against the state and sentences him to death. Endre Szebenyi, state secretary at the Interior Ministry, and András Villányi, a former police general, are sentenced to death in a separate trial. The sentences are carried out on May 26.

Yugoslavia / Greece – May 21, 1950 (KCA)

It is officially announced that, in accordance with their decision to normalize Greek-Yugoslav relations, the Greek and Yugoslav governments have appointed ambassadors to each others' countries.

Soviet Union / Sweden – May 22, 1950 (KCA)

The Swedish Foreign Minister announces that the Soviet Government has rejected a strong Swedish protest against the interception and detention of Swedish fishing vessels in the Baltic.

Czechoslovakia – May 23, 1950 (KCA)

The establishment of a Ministry of Public Security headed by Ladislav Kopriva is announced in Prague.

GDR / France / U.K. / U.S. / Soviet Union – May 23, 1950 (KCA)

The U.S., British and French Governments present notes to the Soviet Government protesting the creation in Eastern Germany of a militarized police force that is about 50,000 strong, armed with artillery, tanks, and other military equipment. The governments emphasize that the creation of this quasi-military force constitutes a violation of the Yalta Agreement and Potsdam Declaration.

Hungary – May 25, 1950 (KCA)

On the fifth anniversary of the liberation of Budapest by the Red Army, the Hungarian Government issues a decree proclaiming amnesty for all persons convicted of political and economic crimes, except treason and espionage, for those who had “left the country on orders or under the influence of Fascist propaganda, and for Hungarian subjects who had left for the West because of the war, provided that they returned by **October 4, 1950.**”

GDR / France / U.K. / U.S. / Soviet Union – May 26, 1950 (KCA)

The Allied High Commission in Bonn issues a text of identical letters that the British, French, and U.S. High Commissioners send individually to the Soviet Control Commission in Eastern Germany. In it, the governments propose steps to bring about the political and economic unity of Germany.

Hungary / U.K. / U.S. – May 26, 1950 (HC)

The report of the Hungarian Government to the governments of the United States and the United Kingdom: Hungary has not violated human rights or the peace treaty as it is stated by the International Court of The Hague.

Romania – May 26, 1950 (PIR)

The regime (quotas and prices) for the collection of vegetal agricultural products is established by decree.

Romania / U.S. – May 26, 1950 (LBC)

Romanian diplomats may not leave the 35 mile radius of Washington D.C. The measure comes in response to the limitation of the movement of U.S. diplomats in Romania.

Czechoslovakia / US – May 27, 1950 (KCA)

The U.S. orders the closure of the Czechoslovak Consulate-General in New York, the last remaining one in the country. It also announces that the U.S. Consulate-General in Bratislava will be closed down, and that the Embassy staff in Prague will number 12.

Romania – May 27, 1950 (PIR)

A plenary session of the CC of the General Confederation of Labor takes place, debating the Labor Code and the budget for the year.

Albania / Yugoslavia – May 30, 1950 (KCA)

It is announced in Belgrade that the Yugoslav Government has recalled its *Chargé d' Affaires* and other diplomatic staff from the Albanian capital Tirana, closing down its Legation there.

Romania – May 30, 1950 (PIR)

The works of MAN are concluded with the adoption of the Labor Code. All workers must hold workers' cards, approved and updated by the enterprise where they are active.

Czechoslovakia – May 31, 1950 (KCA)

The trial of ten men and women, several of whom were prominent members of the Czech National Socialist, Social Democratic and Catholic People's Party begins. The defendants are charged with treason and espionage, all pleading guilty.

Hungary / Yugoslavia – May 31, 1950 (KCA)

The Hungarian Ministry of Interior announces that as of **July 1** the area adjacent to the Yugoslav frontier will become a prohibited zone which only persons holding special permits, and the military or political police, will be allowed to enter. Exceptions are made for Szeged and Nagykanizsa, both of which are towns that lie in the zone.

Hungary – May 31, 1950 (HC)

The resolution of the Central Leadership of the Hungarian Workers' Party on the development of agriculture and the fight against clericalism is released.

Yugoslavia – May 31, 1950 (PVC)

As a response to the peasant unrest, Tito delivers a speech at Prokuplje in Southern Serbia.

June 1950

Poland – June 1, 1950 (KCA)

The Polish Cabinet decides to create three new Polish provinces in the Western (ex-German) territories incorporated since the end of the war.

Yugoslavia / U.S. – June 1950 (LKT)

U.S. Secretary of State Dean Acheson authorizes the service attachés in Belgrade to increase their contacts with Yugoslav military authorities, while cautioning not to engage in any advance planning for material assistance to Yugoslavia.

Hungary – June 1, 1950 (KCA)

József Révai, Hungarian Minister of Education and Politburo member, strongly attacks the Roman Catholic Bishops and religious order in a report presented to the party's Central Leadership.

Romania – June 1, 1950 (PIR)

The opening ceremony of the Pioneers' Palace in Bucharest takes place (organized in the Cotroceni Palace).

Yugoslavia / Soviet Union – June 1-4, 1950 (WBA)

Former Yugoslav Army Major General Branko Petričević and former Yugoslav Army Colonel Vladimir Dapčević are tried before the Military Tribunal in Belgrade for their espionage connections with the Military Attaché of the USSR in Belgrade, Major General Ghorghiy Stefanovic Sidorovic.

Poland / Yugoslavia – June 2, 1950 (KCA)

It is announced in Belgrade that the Yugoslav Ambassador in Warsaw has been recalled because of the "insulting and discriminatory conduct" of the Polish authorities to the Yugoslav Embassy.

Poland / GDR – June 5-6, 1950 (KCA)

A delegation from the GDR visits Warsaw for talks with the Polish Government. Officials reach agreements on the demarcation of the Polish-German State frontier on the Oder-Niesse line, on trade and payments for 1950, on the provision of Polish credits to the GRD, technical and scientific cooperation, and cultural exchange.

Hungary / France – June 6, 1950 (KCA)

The Hungarian Government informs the French Legation that the French Military Attaché is considered *persona non grata* and is required to leave the country within 24 hours.

GDR / Soviet Union – June 7, 1950 (KCA)

It is announced in Berlin that Major-General Kotikov, the Soviet Commandant in Berlin, has been recalled to the USSR and will be replaced by a civilian, Sergei Dengin and that the heads of the Soviet Control Commissions in Brandenburg, Saxony and Thuringia have similarly been replaced by civilian officials.

Hungary – June 7-9, 1950 (REV)

Two thousand monks and nuns are displaced from the border zone with Yugoslavia and from Szentgotthárd, Budapest, and Székesfehérvár. Some 70,000-80,000 persons are later removed from the western and southern border areas.

Romania – June 7, 1950 (KCA)

On the order of the Romanian Government, Luigi Boga, Vicar-General of the Roman Catholic diocese of Alba Julia, is arrested.

Yugoslavia – June 7, 1950 (PVC)

The British Embassy in Belgrade reports on peasant discontent and unrest in Croatia and Macedonia.

Romania – June 8, 1950 (PIR)

Law no. 3, containing the Labor Code, which regulates agreements and collective employments, norms, profits and salaries, labor and leisure hours, and the responsibilities of syndicates, is published.

Hungary – June 9 1950 (REV)

Social Democrat politician Anna Kéthly is arrested and held without trial for four years.

Yugoslavia / Soviet Union – June 9, 1950 (PVC)

Borba publishes a Yugoslav note protesting the navigational manoeuvres of Soviet ships against Yugoslav vessels on the Austrian segment of the Danube.

Romania – June 10, 1950 (PIR)

Decree no. 151, regulating the accumulation and circulation of agricultural goods, is published.

Yugoslavia / Czechoslovakia – June 12, 1950 (WBA)

The Yugoslav Government sends a note of protest to the Czechoslovak Embassy following the groundless arrest and death in prison of Dimitrije Dimitrijević, President of the People's Front of Yugoslavs in Prague. The Czechoslovak Embassy returns the note without any answers.

Hungary – June 13, 1950 (KCA)

The Ministry of Interior announces the dissolution of all Masonic lodges in Hungary, describing them as “meeting places of the enemies of the people's republic, capitalist elements, and adherents of Western imperialism”.

Soviet Union / Finland – June 13, 1950 (KCA)

Finland and the Soviet Union sign a new trade treaty, consisting of a short-term agreement for the second half of 1950 and a five year agreement covering the period of 1951-1955.

Hungary – June 15, 1950 (HC)

Local Councils are established in Budapest and in the 19 county capitals.

Romania – June 15, 1950 (PIR)

General Nicolae Macici dies in the Aiud prison.

Czechoslovakia / Belgium / UK – June 16, 1950 (KCA)

The Czechoslovak Government delivers notes to the British Embassy and Belgian

Legation, demanding the recall of McLaughlin and Colonel Mauroy within 14 days.

Hungary – June 16-18, 1950 (REV)

The League of Working Youth (DISZ) is established under direct party control and absorbs several other youth organizations that were hitherto formally independent. Mátyás Rákosi, in a speech, urges it to protect the future of young people.

Soviet Union / Italy / France / U.K. / U.S. – June 16, 1950 (KCA)

The U.S., British and French governments deliver notes to the Soviet Government in response to the Soviet's accusation that they are violating the Italian peace treaty by impeding and establishing a naval base there. The Western notes to the Soviet Government reject these accusations.

Hungary – June 18, 1950 (HC)

According to the *Szabad Nép*, the Council of Ministers raises the investments in 1950 with 900 million forints.

GDR /Soviet Union – June 21, 1950 (KCA)

It is announced in Berlin that under a protocol signed by the Soviet Control Commission and the East German Government, authority to “administer and protect” foreign property in its territory has been transferred by the Soviet authorities to the German Democratic Republic, who will conduct negotiations with the foreign countries regarding the property. The ultimate fate of the property will depend on a future peace treaty.

Soviet Union / Iran / US – June 22, 1950 (KCA)

The Soviet Government issues another note to Iran reiterating the earlier charges that American nationals have made oil surveys along the Soviet-Iranian frontier, creating a threat to the Soviet Union.

Czechoslovakia / GDR – June 23, 1950 (KCA)

It is announced that East Germany and Czechoslovakia have signed a joint declaration of co-operation, along with cultural, technical/scientific and financial agreements.

Hungary – June 23, 1950 (HC)

Minister of the Interior János Kádár resigns after he was entrusted with a “special, important party work”. His successor is Sándor Zöld.

Romania / US – June 23, 1950 (PIR)

The Romanian government protests measures taken by the American authorities against members of the Romanian Legation in Washington.

Yugoslavia – June 24, 1950 (PVC)

Josip, the Metropolitan of Skopje, head of the Orthodox Holy Synod, is arrested shortly before the election of the new patriarch takes place.

Korea – June 25, 1950 (HC)

The Korean War begins.

Romania – June 26, 1950 (PIR)

State Forest Farms (Gospodării Silvice de State) are organized by law.

Yugoslavia – June 27, 1950 (KCA)

The Yugoslav Assembly unanimously adopts a Bill introducing direct workers' control and management of all industries.

Soviet Union / U.N. – June 27, 1950 (PLC)

The U.N. Security Council agrees to send troops to Korea (an agreement is reached only because the Soviets are not present at the meeting). The countries of the Soviet Bloc intensify the arms race, preparing for a possible world war.

Hungary – June 28, 1950 (REV)

Talks between the Catholic Conference of Bishops and the Government resume.

Poland – June 28, 1950 (PLC)

Poland finalizes the integration of the Western areas.

Czechoslovakia / US – June 29, 1950 (KCA)

The Czechoslovak Government issues a proclamation on Prague radio blaming the U.S. for introducing the Colorado beetle into the area.

Yugoslavia / Soviet Union / U.S. – June 29, 1950 (HWC)

At the meeting of the National Security Council, the question is raised whether an attack on Yugoslavia by the Soviet (and/or satellites) would vitally affect U.S. interests and whether it would call for U.S. military assistance.

GDR / US / Soviet Union – June 30, 1950 (KCA)

The Soviet Government presents a note to the U.S. stating that it received information from the GDR that between **May 22 and June 7** American planes dropped a large number of Colorado beetles, dangerous pests to potato crops, in many districts of the nation.

Yugoslavia / Bulgaria – June 30, 1950 (WBA)

The agreement on the utilization of properties cut by the Yugoslav-Bulgarian frontier line is broken by note of the Bulgarian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

July 1950

Romania – July 1-10, 1950 (PIR)

A peasant revolt against the quotas system takes place in the Ialomîța district. Incidents involving troops of the militia and the Securitate occur, 96 peasants are arrested.

Yugoslavia – July 1, 1950 (KCA)

Bishop Vikentije Prodanov is elected Patriarch of the Serbian Orthodox Church.

Soviet Union / Poland – July 3, 1950 (KCA)

It is announced in Moscow and Warsaw that, following negotiations, the Soviet and Polish Governments have agreed that their long term trading agreement of January 1948 was successfully implemented, revealing the possibility of further extending trade in the future.

Albania – July 4, 1950 (PLC)

A Soviet-type constitution is accepted in Albania.

Romania / Vatican – July 5, 1950 (KCA)

The Vatican announces that the Romanian Government has expelled the Papal Nuncio and two of his aides from the country, accusing them of espionage activities.

Poland / GDR – July 6, 1950 (PSN)

Poland and the GDR sign a border agreement in the town of Zgorzelec.

Romania / UK – July 6, 1950 (PIR)

The Secretary of the British Legation in Bucharest (King) is asked to leave the country. The expulsion is due to his alleged connection to Romanian spies.

Soviet Union / U.S. – July 6, 1950 (KCA)

Acheson refutes the Soviet charges that the United States maliciously introduced the Colorado beetle into the area, dismissing the claims as Communist propaganda.

Hungary – July 7, 1950 (REV)

György Marosán, former Justice Minister István Ries, and Imre Vajda (all former Social Democrats) are arrested. Ries dies under interrogation on **September 15**.

Romania / Vatican – July 7, 1950 (PIR)

Romania breaks diplomatic relations with the Vatican, following numerous arrests connected to the Vatican Legation, the expulsion of the Apostolic Nuncio, Partick O'Hara, and of all foreign functionaries.

Poland – July 9, 1950 (PSN)

It is announced that the Labor Party, a Christian-Democratic Party subordinated to the Communists, would become part of the Democratic Party, another subordinated party.

Romania – July 9-11, 1950 (PIR)

800 peasants in the village of Ghimpați (district of Giurgiu) demand the reduction of quotas. In response, a part of the protesters are deported in Dobrogea.

Czechoslovakia / FRG / U.S. – July 10, 1950 (KCA)

The Czechoslovak Government sends a note of protest to the U.S., alleging that the Colorado beetles were intentionally transported by the U.S. in all areas adjunct to the American zones of Germany.

Yugoslavia / France / U.K. / U.S. – July 10, 1950 (HWC)

The American Government issues an invitation to France and Britain to send representatives to Washington to discuss the technical aspects of arms aid to Yugoslavia.

Poland – July 11, 1950 (KCA)

An announcement in Warsaw states that Jerzy Putrament, Polish Ambassador to France since **June 1947**, has been recalled to Warsaw and will devote himself to political and literary work.

Romania – July 11, 1950 (PIR)

Military prisons are transferred from the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Armed Forces to that of the Ministry of Internal Affairs.

Czechoslovakia / GDR – July 12, 1950 (KCA)

Czechoslovakia and East Germany sign an agreement for mutual assistance against the Colorado beetle.

Hungary – July 12, 1950 (REV)

Sentences for illegally leaving the country increase and can now range up to life imprisonment. In subsequent months sentences for wage and norm fraud, speculation and incitement against agricultural cooperatives increase as well.

Hungary / Korea – July 12, 1950 (HC)

The peace convention of the Hungarian workers supports Korean President Kim Ir Sen in the name of 1,650,000 workers. It states: “Together with the entire world, we demand: Hands off Korea.”

Czechoslovakia – July 14, 1950 (KCA)

An official announcement in Prague states that Dr. Karol Smidke, chairman of the Slovak National Council in Bratislava, has resigned and will be succeeded by Frantisek Kubac. Smidke admitted to “bourgeois nationalistic deviation”, and has resigned from membership of the Czechoslovak Parliament.

Hungary – July 17, 1950 (HC)

The Presidential Council relieves Justice Minister István Ries (SZDP), and elects Erik Molnár (MKP) as his successor.

Hungary / Bulgaria / Romania – July 18, 1950 (HC)

The International Court of Justice rejects the charges from the Western powers about the discrimination of the churches in Hungary, Bulgaria and Romania.

Soviet Union / Afghanistan – July 18, 1950 (KCA)

After months of negotiations, the Soviet Union and Afghanistan sign a four-year trade agreement, the first between the two countries.

Romania – July 20, 1950 (KCA)

It is officially announced in Bucharest that about 190,000 persons, comprising approximately one fifth of the Romanian Communist Party, were purged between November 1948 and May 1950.

Poland – July 21, 1950 (PSN)

The Diet passes the Six-Year-Plan for Economic Development and the Laying of the Foundations of Socialism. The plan calls for an expansion of heavy industry.

Yugoslavia / Bulgaria – July 22, 1950 (WBA)

The Yugoslav Government sends a note of protest against the Bulgarian Government's unlawful decision to grant Bulgarian citizenship to some Yugoslav citizens of Bulgarian descent. The Yugoslav Government also sends a note of protest regarding the unilateral breach by the Bulgarian Government of the Agreement on the Utilization of Property cut by the Yugoslav-Bulgarian Frontier, of **August 27, 1947**.

Romania – July 23, 1950 (PLC)

In Romania the administrative counties are abolished, in favor of dividing the country into 28 administrative regions. One of the 11 regions of Transylvania is the Stalin region, formed from the counties of Csík, Udvarhely and Háromszék, mostly populated by Hungarians.

Yugoslavia / Peru – July 26, 1950 (OEH)

Yugoslavia enters into a trade agreement with Peru.

Soviet Union / Iran – July 27, 1950 (KCA)

It is announced in Tehran that foreign correspondents will no longer be permitted to visit the Iranian-Soviet border or any part of Azerbaijan to “avoid provocation to the Russians.”

Yugoslavia – July 27, 1950 (PLC)

According to the recently accepted law, in Yugoslavia the factories are given to the workers' collectives.

Yugoslavia – July 28, 1950 (KCA)

A 280 mile motorway between Belgrade and Zagreb opens, constituting the biggest single project of the Yugoslav Five-Year Plan.

August 1950

Poland - August 1950 (OSA)

An Executive Committee plenum of the Związek Młodzieży Polskiej (ZMP) is held in Warsaw. The ZMP is accused of not fostering enough class struggle. Changes and purges take place. ZMP becomes a thoroughly Communist organization.

Yugoslavia / Hungary / Soviet Union – August-September 1950 (PVC)

Continuous reports reach the British Embassies about Soviet military manoeuvres close to the Hungarian-Yugoslav border.

Hungary – August 1, 1950 (REV)

The National Peace Committee of Catholic Priests is formed at the Péter Pázmány University of Sciences in Budapest. This marks the beginning of the “peace priest movement”, combining clergy willing to collaborate with the state authorities. On November 1, a paper called *Kereszt* (Cross) begins to be published.

Yugoslavia / U.K. – August 6-10, 1950 (PVC)

Labour MP Philip Noel-Baker takes a private visit to Yugoslavia en route to Athens. On **August 7**, he is received by Foreign Minister Edvard Kardelj and the two discuss the world situation after the outbreak of the Korean War and analyse the possibility of armed attack against Yugoslavia.

Hungary – August 8, 1950 (REV)

The Defence Ministry segregates conscripts in Category C (politically unreliable) and stops them from doing armed service. Over the next year, they are organized into army supply brigades and companies doing construction and later mining work.

Yugoslavia / U.K. – August 8, 1950 (PVC)

Tito receives British Ambassador Charles Peake and discusses with him issues about foreign policy.

Bulgaria / Turkey – August 10, 1950 (KCA)

After commencing the deportation of 250,000 Muslims of Turkish origin from Bulgaria back to Turkey, the Bulgarian Government announces that the repatriation of the Turkish minority is scheduled to be completed within the next three months,

declaring that Turkey must accept them under an agreement between the two countries made in 1925.

Romania – August 11, 1950 (PIR)

The titles of Scientist Emeritus, Artist of the People, Master Emeritus of Art, Artist Emeritus, Professor Emeritus and Educator Emeritus are instituted.

Poland – August 15, 1950 (KCA)

The World Health Organization receives notification of Poland's decision to withdraw from the organization.

Hungary – August 16, 1950 (HC) (REV)

The Central Leadership of the Hungarian Worker's Party assembles. Mátyás Rákosi holds an informative session about the case of György Marosán, István Ries, Imre Vajda. György Marosán and other Social-Democratic leaders are arrested. The sentences are carried out on **August 19**.

Soviet Bloc / U.S. – August 18, 1950 (PLC)

The United States further restricts its export of strategically important materials to the countries of Eastern Europe. During the year the members of NATO (except Iceland), together with Japan and Australia form the COCOM, an organization aiming to control the export of military and technological goods to socialist countries.

Hungary – August 19, 1950 (HC)

The first socialist fine arts exhibition opens in Budapest. The outstanding artist of the People's Republic award is given out for the first time.

Romania – August 20, 1950 (PIR)

Constantin (Dinu) I.C. Brătianu, President of PNL (1934 – 1947), dies in the Sighet prison.

Soviet Union – August 21, 1950 (KCA)

The Soviet Council of Ministers issues a decree for the construction of a hydroelectric station on the Volga. Work will commence in 1950 and is scheduled for completion in 1955.

Hungary – August 22, 1950 (HC)

Led by Ferenc Erdei, a 200-member peasant delegation travels to Moscow. Upon returning, Erdei calls on the Hungarian peasantry to follow the Soviet example and enter the cooperatives.

Romania – August 22, 1950 (PIR)

The Grand National Assembly ratifies Decree no. 211 regarding the renaming of the city Brasov into Oraşul Stalin (The City Stalin).

Bulgaria – August 25, 1950 (KCA)

After a six-day trial, two former Communist party members are sentenced to death, and ten other persons are sentenced to prison terms ranging from 8 to 15 years on charges including economic sabotage, and hindering Soviet-Bulgarian trade negotiations.

Yugoslavia / U.S. – August 25, 1950 (HWC)

After the outbreak of the Korean War, the U.S. National Security Council lists Yugoslavia among the most endangered areas together with Iran, Turkey, Greece, Afghanistan, Pakistan and Finland. A direct Soviet attack is not regarded as very likely, because it is assumed that the Soviet Union is trying to avoid a third world war. However, a satellite attack (without Soviet participation) is regarded as a real possibility.

Hungary – August 27-September 3, 1950 (HC)

The first Hungarian Mathematical Congress takes place in Budapest.

Yugoslavia / U.K. – August 29, 1950 (PVC)

The British Embassy in Belgrade reports on the meeting between Permanent Under-Secretary at the Foreign Office William Strang and Tito, surveying the Korean War and the bilateral relations between Greece and Yugoslavia and between Italy and Yugoslavia.

Hungary – August 30, 1950 (HC/REV)

The Government and the Hungarian Catholic Church leadership sign an agreement. The Catholic Church receives permission to operate 4 theological colleges and 8 high schools. 4 convents are also allowed to operate. The Benedictines, the Piarists, the Franciscans and a female order receive permits to operate. The other orders are dissolved on **September 7**. This affects 635 religious houses and 11,500 monks and nuns.

Romania – August 30, 1950 (PIR)

Alexandru Lepădatu, former Minister of Cults and Arts (1923-1928, 1934-1936), dies in the Sighet penitentiary.

Yugoslavia / Greece / U.N. – August 30, 1950 (HWC)

The Yugoslav representative at the U.N. votes in favour of the Soviet motion condemning the “reign of terror” in Greece.

Soviet Union / UK – August 31, 1950 (KCA)

The Foreign Office in London announces its decision to close down the Russian-language weekly newspaper *British Ally* because of a considerable loss in its circulation.

Hungary – August, 1950 (HC)

The monthly magazine *Fórum* stops publishing. The editorial board of the *Csillag* also changes. The head editor and the entire board are fired.

September 1950

Yugoslavia – September 1950 (KCA)

It is announced that the Central Committee of the Croatian Communist Party has decided to expel three of its most prominent members, Rade Zigic, Dusan Brkic and Stanko Canica Opacic, who are accused of various actions against the Yugoslav State.

Yugoslavia / U.S. – September 1950 (LYE)

The American President of the IBRD, Eugene Black, visits Belgrade on Tito's invitation to discuss Yugoslavia's request for a \$25 million loan to purchase mining equipment, a transaction the IBRD does not favour. Previously, Ambassador Popović finds Black's demands for information totally unacceptable and raises the prospect of a complete Yugoslav break with the West as a result. During his stay in Belgrade, Black has a four-hour long discussion with Tito.

East Germany – September 1, 1950 (KCA)

Neues Deutschland, the organ of the Socialist Unity Party in the Soviet sector of Berlin, announces that six leading party members have been expelled and deprived of their positions after investigations by the Party's Central Committee.

Czechoslovakia / Hungary – September 1, 1950 (HC)

The first Hungarian language high school since the war opens in Komarno (Komárom).

Soviet Union / Denmark / Sweden – September 1, 1950 (KCA)

In notes sent to the Danish and Swedish ministers in Moscow, the Soviet Ministry of Foreign Affairs rejects the **July 24** joint Danish-Swedish protest of the Soviet claim to a 12-mile sea limit in the Baltic.

Yugoslavia / Hungary – September 1, 1950 (WBA)

The Yugoslav Government sends a note of protest to the Hungarian Government against the forced resettlement of the Yugoslav national minority in Hungary.

GDR – September 4, 1950 (KCA)

The East German Government bans the religious sect of the Jehovah's Witnesses, 30,000 of whom live in the GDR.

Soviet Bloc / U.S. – September 4, 1950 (LBC)

General Dwight D. Eisenhower opens the private broadcast named *Crusade for Truth*, the aim of which is to tell the truth about democracy to the peoples behind

the Iron Curtain. According to Eisenhower the campaign will expand Radio Free Europe into a radio network (Since 1948 one of the key elements of American policy toward Eastern Europe was “psychological warfare” aimed at keeping alive resistance against the communist regimes).

Yugoslavia / Romania – September 4, 1950 (WBA)

Trial of a group of spies who had been organized and directed by diplomatic representatives of the Romanian Embassy in Belgrade takes place in the Belgrade County Court. The group is made of Koriolan Lupšić, clerk, Yugoslav citizen of Romanian descent; Trajan Flor, farmer, Yugoslavian citizen of Romanian descent and Vladislav Simonov, newspapermen, Yugoslav citizen of Serbian descent.

Yugoslavia / France – September 6, 1950 (HWC)

The memorandum of the French Foreign Ministry sums up the effects of the events in Korea on Western attitudes towards Yugoslavia and concludes with an exhortation to start military aid talks as soon as possible.

Hungary – September 7, 1950 (KCA)

The Government publishes a decree dissolving 59 of the existing 63 religious orders in Hungary.

Yugoslavia / U.K. – September 7, 1950 (PVC)

Tito receives Fitzroy Maclean in a private visit. The two survey the Yugoslav economic situation and the possibility of an invasion against Yugoslavia.

Yugoslavia / U.K. – September 7-19, 1950 (PVC)

The executive committee of the British Labour Party visits Yugoslavia.

Hungary / Vatican – September 8, 1950 (KCA)

The *Osservatore Romano* of the Vatican protests the new Government decree in Hungary.

Romania – September 8, 1950 (PIR)

Law no. 5 for the administrative and economic organization of the territory of RPR is published (previously voted by MAN, **September 6**).

Romania – September 9-12, 1950 (PIR)

The congress of the committees of battle for peace in Romania takes place.

Western Europe / U.S. – September 9, 1950 (LBC)

Truman announces that the U.S. will significantly increase the size of its armed forces in Europe.

Bulgaria / Turkey – September 10, 1950 (PLC)

The Turks close the Bulgarian-Turkish border.

Hungary – September 10, 1950 (KCA)

In a pastoral letter, the bench of Catholic bishops states that under the decree more than 10,000 nuns and monks will be forced to return to secular life, declaring that although Church officials are “deeply conflicted, and nothing is left to us but to protest,” the Church hopes that the new agreement will “further the welfare and prosperity of Hungary.”

Yugoslavia / U.K. – September 11, 1950 (PVC)

A meeting takes place between Ernest Bevin and Edvard Kardelj, during which the two Foreign Ministers discuss the current economic situation in Yugoslavia, the possibilities of solving the Italian and the Greek question, and bilateral British-Yugoslav relations.

Hungary / Vatican – September 12, 1950 (KCA)

The Vatican issues a further statement alleging that the agreement between the Hungarian bishops and the State had been concluded “in an atmosphere of intimidation and terror prepared with assiduous care.”

Hungary – September 14, 1950 (HC)

A law is passed reorganizing the health care system.

Hungary – September 14, 1950 (REV)

The National Social Insurance Institute (OTI) becomes the Trade-Union Social Insurance Centre (SZTK), controlled by the National Council of Trade Unions (SZOT).

Romania – September 14, 1950 (PIR)

Gh. A. Cuza, former minister of Labor (1937-1938), dies in the Aiud prison.

Hungary – September 15, 1950 (HC)

István Ries ex-Minister of Justice dies in captivity. He is one of the leaders of the Hungarian Social-Democratic Party and the Hungarian Workers' Party. The University of Budapest is named after the scientist Lóránd Eötvös.

Hungary – September 20, 1950 (REV)

The Military Supreme Court, on appeal, convicts the ‘right-wing Social Democrat’ leaders of war crimes and acts against the order of the state. József Kálmán, István Bittmann, Imre Györki, András Révész, Ágoston Valentiny, Vilmos Zentai, Miklós Kertész, József Tolnai, Ferenc Szeder and József Büchler are sentenced to life imprisonment and Lajos Marosvölgyi to 15 years.

Romania / GDR – September 20-22, 1950 (PIR)

Official talks between Prime Minister Petru Groza and Walter Ulbricht, Vice-President of the provisional government of the German Democratic Republic, take place in Bucharest. Several cooperation agreements are signed.

Bulgaria – September 23, 1950 (OSA)

Gheorgiev Nikola, called “Borimechkata” - the president of the Anti-Fascist Veterans Union - is well-known in the village of the district of Aitos as a criminal, a thief, and a lawbreaker. He took office in the State Security Police as an agent.

Yugoslavia / Soviet Union / U.S. / U.N. – September 25, 1950 (WBA) (RYN)

Evard Kardelj, Deputy Premier and Minister of Foreign Affairs, gives an address to the U.N. General Assembly session proposing the conclusion of an agreement on lasting peace and non-aggression with each neighbouring country. He describes the aggressive policy of the Soviet Union and other Eastern European governments directed to Yugoslavia as one of the principal causes for world tension. He says the United States, too, is culpable for seeking to exploit the Korean War as a crusade against Communism. He also proposes the establishment of a permanent international commission of good offices, which would be composed of the six non-permanent members of the Security Council and six members of the General Assembly.

Bulgaria / GDR – September 26, 1950 (KCA)

It is announced that representatives of the German Democratic Republic and Bulgaria have signed cultural, scientific/technical and financial agreements, and are considering negotiating a long-term trade agreement.

Hungary – September 26, 1950 (HC)

A Marxism-Leninism faculty is established at the Lóránd Eötvös University. The National Peace Convention of the Catholic Priests releases a proclamation that the duty of all Catholic priests and followers is to elect councils and fight for the success of peace.

GDR – September 26, 1950 (KCA)

The East Berlin City Council seizes about 900 small and medium sized businesses in the Soviet sector of Berlin on grounds that they had contravened certain provisions of the law for the protection of trade, had smuggled goods into the Western zones of the city, and that their closure was necessary to protect the economy.

Yugoslavia – September 27, 1950 (KCA)

The Yugoslav Government orders a 10% cut in the bread ration, the suspension of all exports of grain, and a reduction of 58% in the quota for the compulsory sale of bread grains by farmers to the State.

Yugoslavia – September 27, 1950 (KCA)

The People’s Assembly of Bosnia Herzegovina, one of the Federal Republics of Yugoslavia, passes a law prohibiting the wearing of the veil by Muslim women with the support of the head of the Muslim community in Yugoslavia.

Hungary – September 28, 1950 (HC/REV)

The proclamation of the Government is released about the establishment of the “peace loan”. There is a major autumn campaign to achieve over-subscription every year up to 1956.

GDR – September 29, 1950 (PLC)

The GDR becomes a member of the Comecon.

Soviet Union / China – September 30, 1950 (KCA)

The Soviet and Chinese governments ratify the treaty of friendship, alliance and mutual assistance they signed in February.

October 1950**Yugoslavia / France / U.K. / U.S. – October 1950 (LKT)**

The Tripartite Committee on Military Assistance to Yugoslavia, consisting of the United States, United Kingdom and France, completes a report detailing the requirements to be used for planning both peacetime and emergency military aid for Tito's regime.

Yugoslavia / U.N. – October 1950 (LKT)

Yugoslavia supports the Uniting for Peace Resolution, which allows the U.N. General Assembly to act in any given situation where the Security Council is prevented from doing so by a veto from one of its permanent members.

Hungary – October 3, 1950 (HC)

The number 16121-16129/1950 order of the Minister of Agriculture is publicized, according to which the Ministry orders the creation of nine agricultural research institutions.

GDR – October 3-4, 1950 (KCA)

Nine leading members of the Jehovah's Witness sect are tried before the East German Supreme Court in Berlin, charged with various forms of action against the State. The defendants are sentenced to terms ranging from 8 years' to life imprisonment.

Hungary – October 6, 1950 (KCA)

The appointment of Major-General Istvan Batz as Chief of General Staff of the Hungarian Army is announced. Batz is succeeding General László Sólyom, who was previously reported to have been arrested.

Bulgaria / Turkey – October 7, 1950 (KCA)

The Turkish Government, while signifying its willingness to permit the entry into Turkey of all immigrants of Turkish origin possessing valid consular visas, closes

its frontiers to immigrants after realizing that many of the refugees trying to emigrate from Bulgaria were actually of non Turkish origin.

Soviet Union / US – October 9, 1950 (KCA)

Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Gromyko presents a note to the Counselor of the U.S. Embassy in Moscow alleging that on the previous day two American fighter jets made a low-altitude machine gun attack on the Soviet Far Eastern airfield Sukhaya, and protesting the “gross violation” of Soviet territory.

Hungary – October 10, 1950 (REV)

The Supreme Court rules on the Szeged branch of the Hungarian Freedom Party and Democratic People’s Party. József Halápi and Sándor Nyilasi are sentenced to death for conspiracy against the state and armed rebellion; 26 associates receive long prison or forced-labour terms. The sentences are carried out soon after.

Yugoslavia / U.S. – October 11, 1950 (CUY)

It is announced that Belgrade will supply a major share of its strategically important non-ferrous metals (copper, lead and zinc) to the United States through the end of 1951. This is expected to total between 5 and 20 million dollars.

Bulgaria / Turkey – October 13, 1950 (KCA)

The Bulgarian Government sends the Turkish Government a note demanding that Turkey begin allowing all members of the Turkish minority in Bulgaria desiring to emigrate to do so “without further delays or obstacles”.

Hungary – October 14, 1950 (HC)

The central leadership of the Alliance of Working Youth calls the youth to support the building of the Duna Iron Factory in Dunapentele.

GDR – October 15, 1950 (KCA)

Elections to the East German *Volkskammer* are held in the Soviet zone of Germany, excluding Berlin. 98.44% of the electorate is reported to have voted, 99.58% of these votes being for the National Front.

Yugoslavia – October 15, 1950 (KCA)

A decree is issued aiming at saving food and household necessities and distributing them fairly. The decree abolishes all special privileges in the supply and distribution of foodstuffs and consumer goods, eliminating the system of the USSR in which Senior Party officers shop in special stores.

Romania – October 17, 1950 (PIR)

The trial of the anti-communist resistance group Paragină-Timaru, involving 64 people, takes place at the Military Tribunal in Galați.

Soviet Union / U.K. – October 18, 1950 (LBC)

The British Government rejects the proposal by the Conservative Party to stop the export of Malaysian rubber to the USSR.

Soviet Union / U.S. – October 19, 1950 (KCA)

The U.S. Government admits the **October 8** incident, saying that pilots were advised not to fly in that area. They maintain that the incident was the result of navigation error and poor judgement, assuring the Soviets that disciplinary action will be taken against the pilots responsible.

Yugoslavia / U.S. – October 19, 1950 (CUY)

A meeting takes place between U.S. Secretary of State, Dean Acheson, and Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister of Yugoslavia, Edvard Kardelj on the subject of Yugoslavia's request for economic assistance.

Yugoslavia / UK – October 19-23, 1950 (PVC)

The bishop of Gibraltar accepts the invitation of the Serbian Orthodox Patriarch and visits Yugoslavia.

Soviet Bloc / FRG – October 20-21, 1950 (PLC)

At a conference of Foreign Ministers in Prague, the socialist countries raise objections to the remilitarization of the FRG.

Yugoslavia / U.S. – October 20, 1950 (CUY)

Yugoslavia formally sends a request to the United States for food assistance of \$50 million because of the severe drought in the country.

Yugoslavia / U.K. – October 20, 1950 (HWC)

The British Cabinet agrees to grant credits of up to £5 million to Yugoslavia.

Hungary – October 22, 1950 (REV)

The People's Front candidates receive 97.8% of the vote in single-list general elections.

Romania – October 26, 1950 (PIR)

The plenary of the CC of PMR adopts the ten-year plan for the electrification of the country.

Poland – October 28, 1950 (PSN)

Emergency monetary reform passes the Diet, causing a loss of two thirds of the total savings of the population. Possession of foreign currency is banned.

Soviet Union – October 28, 1950 (KCA)

The TASS agency announces a number of ministerial changes in the Soviet Government.

Yugoslavia / France – October 28, 1950 (HWC)

Tito first asks the French for credit-sales of arms in an interview with their Ambassador. Subsequent misunderstandings, combined with the French tendency to put narrow financial interests above strategic considerations, results in the loss of their opportunity to become Yugoslavia's main supplier of arms, and its main negotiating partner in the West.

Poland – October 29, 1950 (KCA)

The Polish Parliament adopts a new law putting the zloty on a gold basis and placing it on parity with the rouble.

Hungary – October 29, 1950 (REV)

November 7, anniversary of the Soviet 'Great October Socialist Revolution' is declared a state holiday.

Yugoslavia / U.S. – October 30, 1950 (LUY)

The US National Security Council meets to consider the Yugoslav crisis. According to its estimate, if the Soviet Union had any intention of exploiting the United States' preoccupation with Korea, Yugoslavia is probably the weakest, most strategic and most logical point at which to penetrate.

Yugoslavia – October 30, 1950 (PVC)

Tito delivers a speech at the congress of the antifascist women in Zagreb and states the reasons for asking for economic help from the United States.

GDR – October 31, 1950 (KCA)

It is reported from Berlin that over 120,000 Germans in the Soviet zone will be required to attend special "Lenin courses" for a year, which will include the study of the history of Russian Communism and the life of Stalin in order to prepare them for membership of the Communist-led Socialist Unity Party.

November 1950**Bulgaria – November, 1950 (PLC)**

Vlko Csernekov becomes the new head of the Bulgarian Communist Party.

Hungary – November, 1950 (REV)

Mátyás Rákosi, Ernő Gerő and Mihály Farkas make a pact kept secret from the Central Committee of the Hungarian Workers' Party and form a so-called Defence Committee. The 'Troika' has absolute power over the country until 1953.

Soviet Bloc – November, 1950 (CEC)

The third session of the COMECON Assembly meets in Moscow. Interregional trade is discussed.

Hungary – November 1, 1950 (HC)

The Stalin Bridge of Budapest is initiated (today: Árpád Bridge). Also in Budapest, one part of the Nagy Körút (Grand Bulevard) is named after Lenin, Oktogon is renamed November 7 square.

Bulgaria / Turkey – November 4, 1950 (KCA)

After subsequent negotiations between Turkey and Bulgaria, the Bulgarian Government agrees to take back a number of the people not of Turkish origin that entered the country, agreeing that no Muslim will leave Bulgaria without the proper documents.

Soviet Union / Iran – November 4, 1950 (KCA)

The Soviet and Iranian Governments sign a protocol renewing their trade agreement of 1940 for one year starting **November 10, 1950**.

GDR – November 6, 1950 (KCA)

Sixteen more members of the Jehovah's Witness sect are sentenced to terms of imprisonment ranging from 1 to 15 years.

Soviet Union – November 6, 1950 (KCA)

Marshal Bulganin delivers the annual review of Soviet foreign policy on the anniversary of the October Revolution.

Soviet Union / UK – November 6, 1950 (LBC)

It is announced that the United Kingdom will buy 800,000 tons of grain from the Soviet Union, 200,000 less than the previous year.

Yugoslavia – November 6, 1950 (HWC) (CUY)

In his interview with the correspondent of the *New York Times*, Cyrus Sulzberger, Tito says that he would buy arms from whoever made the best offer and that another extensive amnesty will soon take place.

Bulgaria – November 7, 1950 (KCA)

A decree is published in Sofia establishing that Soviet nationals in Bulgaria will enjoy equal rights with Bulgarian citizens.

Yugoslavia / Greece – November 7, 1950 (SGY)

57 Greek prisoners are returned to the Greek authorities and 7 more follow two weeks later.

GDR – November 8, 1950 (KCA)

The new East German *Volkskammer* meets for the first time and elects Dieckmann as its president.

Hungary – November 10, 1950 (HC)

A collection of selected letters from Marx and Engels is published in Hungarian.

Yugoslavia – November 11, 1950 (ACY)

The *New York Times* publishes a report claiming that in Yugoslavia 300 priests are waiting for trial in jail, kept in abominable conditions.

Yugoslavia / Albania – November 12, 1950 (KCA)

The Yugoslav Government closes down the Albanian Legation in Belgrade.

Yugoslavia – November 12, 1950 (CUY)

In an interview with a West German news agency Tito states that “there will be no second Five-Year-Plan similar to the first one.”

Romania – November 13, 1950 (PIR)

Decree no. 207, prohibiting workers, clerks and technicians in state enterprises from quitting their work without the prior approval of their superiors, is published. Absenteeism and participation in strikes are punishable, according to the Penal Code.

Yugoslavia / U.K. – November 14, 1950 (KCA)

The Foreign Office in London announces that the British Government has offered a credit of 3 million pounds to Yugoslavia to enable it to purchase foodstuffs and consumer goods to relieve the food shortage in Yugoslavia.

Yugoslavia / Greece – November 14, 1950 (KCA)

The Greek Prime Minister announces that all food supplies bound for Yugoslavia will be given free transit as a “humanitarian gesture”.

Romania – November 16, 1950 (PIR)

The Council of Ministers adopts the decision regarding the construction of the power plant at Bicaz (which would become functional in 1960).

Yugoslavia / U.N. – November 17, 1950 (RYN)

The U.N. General Assembly adopts Kardelj's proposal on the Duties of States in the Event of the Outbreak of Hostilities. The resolution is aimed at forestalling a Soviet armed intervention against Yugoslavia under the guise of self-defence.

Bulgaria / Turkey – November 18, 1950 (OSA)

The Bulgarian Communist Party starts a strong mass campaign with posters to block the emigration of ethnic Turks from Bulgaria. Posters show the fate of poverty and capitalistic exploitation that expect those people in Turkey, compared to the Bulgarian communist paradise.

Yugoslavia / U.S. – November 18, 1950 (LYE)

The first shipload of American foodstuffs reaches the port of Rijeka. By the time the last stop-gap shipment arrives in March 1951, some 249,000 metric tons of

supplies, worth \$31.8 million including transportation costs, will have been delivered to Yugoslavia.

Yugoslavia / U.S. – November 21, 1950 (CUY)

An agreement between the United States and Yugoslavia covering the terms of the Mutual Defense Assistance Program is concluded in Belgrade.

Yugoslavia / U.S. – November 24, 1950 (KCA)

President Truman announces that he has allocated \$16 million from the funds appropriated under the Mutual Defense Assistance Act to provide food for the Yugoslav armed forces.

Yugoslavia – November 25, 1950 (KCA)

It is announced in Belgrade that Sreten Zujovic, who in May 1948 had been arrested for supporting the Cominform against the Yugoslav Government, has been released from prison since the State believes that he has been re-educated.

Czechoslovakia / U.S. / FRG – November 27, 1950 (KCA)

The U.S. High Commissioner in Berlin informs the Czechoslovak military mission in Berlin of restrictions to be imposed on Czechoslovak aircraft flying over the U.S. zone of Germany starting on **November 29**.

Yugoslavia / Greece – November 27, 1950 (KCA)

The main railway line from Saloniki to Belgrade as well as the truck line from Saloniki to Bitolj, both of which were damaged during the Greek civil war, are reopened to traffic between the two countries.

Yugoslavia / Greece – November 28, 1950 (KCA)

The Greek Prime Minister announces that Greece and Yugoslavia have agreed to restore full diplomatic relations and that Spyros Kapetanides has been appointed Greek Minister in Belgrade.

Yugoslavia / U.S. – November 29, 1950 (KCA)

President Truman sends a letter to Congress requesting it as a matter of urgency to allocate \$38 million to meet the emergency created by the food shortage in Yugoslavia.

GDR – November 30, 1950 (KCA)

East German Prime Minister Otto Grotewohl writes to the West German Chancellor Konrad Adenauer proposing talks between the two governments on the formation of an all-German Constituent Council as proposed in the Prague Declaration.

Hungary – November 30, 1950 (HC)

The Hungarian Academy of Sciences, following the Soviet model, regulates the

conditions of obtaining the two highest academic degrees (candidate of sciences, doctor of sciences).

Hungary – November 30-December 8, 1950 (HC)

The Parliament approves the 1950: IV Law about the modification of the Constitution and the installments of the new ministries. The 1950: V Law is passed about the protection of peace as well.

Yugoslavia / Greece – November 30, 1950 (HWC)

Venizelos, the head of the Greek Government, announces the imminent exchange of ministers between Greece and Yugoslavia.

December 1950

Yugoslavia – December 1950 (ACY)

Stjepanac of Kotor is sentenced to six years for collaboration.

Bulgaria / Turkey – December 2, 1950 (KCA)

Turkey reopens its frontiers with Bulgaria.

Romania – December 3, 1950 (PIR)

The first elections for deputies in the popular councils take place.

Yugoslavia – December 8, 1950 (KCA)

It is officially announced that Radoc Jovanovich has been appointed Yugoslav Minister in Athens.

GDR – December 11, 1950 (KCA)

After receiving no response from Adenauer, Grotewohl invites him over the East German radio to speak through that network to Germans in East Germany.

Yugoslavia / U.S. – December 11, 1950 (LYE)

The US Senate approves a Bill for the provision of the \$38 million requested. The Yugoslav Emergency Relief Act provides \$50 million in relief, of which some \$31 million worth of ten types of foodstuffs would reach Yugoslavia before or shortly after the end of the year. Another \$38 million will be provided later in 1951 under the Marshall Plan provisions of the Economic Cooperation Administration. The Senate approves the package 60 votes to 21, the House vote on December 13, 225 to 145.

Romania – December 12-13, 1950 (PIR)

The Plenary of the CC of PMR approves the first Five-Year Plan for economic development (1951 – 1955).

Hungary – December 14, 1950 (HC)

The People's Economic Council releases its 644/1950 resolution on the

organization of the newly established Nutrition Ministry. It also releases the 647/1950 resolution about the splitting of the Ministry of Heavy Industry into a Ministry of Metallurgy and Machinery and a Ministry of Mining and Energy, as well as its 659/1950 resolution about the production of cotton.

GDR – December 15, 1950 (KCA)

The East German *Volkskammer* passes a “Law for the Protection of Peace”, making punishable war propaganda of any kind.

Hungary – December 15, 1950 (KCA)

It is officially announced in Budapest that a Government decree has been signed introducing compulsory military training for all university students to take effect on **February 1, 1951**, aiming to secure “the requirements of officers for the People’s Army.”

Soviet Union / FRG / France / UK / US – December 15, 1950 (KCA)

The Soviet Government sends notes to representatives of the Western Powers in Moscow protesting their alleged violation of the Potsdam and other agreements by rearming Western Germany.

GDR / FRG – December 15, 1950 (KCA)

Grotewohl again appeals to Adenauer for joint negotiations on the unification of Germany.

Hungary – December 16, 1950 (HC)

The Presidential Council elects Imre Nagy as the Minister of Nutrition, Mihály Zsofinyecz as Minister of Forge and Industrial Machinery, and Sándor Czottner as the Minister of Mining and Energy. All three of them are members of the Hungarian Workers’ Party.

Romania – December 16, 1950 (PIR)

Law no. 8 for the Five-Year Plan for national economic development between 1951 and 1955 is published (and voted by MAN on December 15).

Romania – December 16, 1950 (PIR)

MAN adopts the Law for the annulment of appropriation rates owed to peasant households which had received land during the 1945 agrarian reform.

Soviet Union / France / UK / US – December 20, 1950 (KCA)

Moscow presents the responses of the Western powers to the Soviet note of November 3, suggesting that the Council of Foreign Ministers should meet for four-power talks on Germany. The notes from the Western governments express the opinion that any four-power discussions should include not only the issue of Germany, but should also explore “the principal problems whose solution would make possible a real and lasting improvement” in the relations between the powers.

The notes suggest that the representatives of the four Powers should meet to find an acceptable agenda for such talks and draw up an agenda.

Yugoslavia – December 21, 1950 (KCA)

It is announced in London that the British Government will make an additional credit of 2 million British pounds to Yugoslavia, bringing its total aid to Yugoslavia to 5 million pounds.

Yugoslavia / Italy – December 23, 1950 (KCA)

Italy and Yugoslavia sign agreements on questions regarding the Italian Peace Treaty.

Yugoslavia / Norway – December 24, 1950 (KCA)

It is announced in Belgrade that Norway has granted Yugoslavia a five-year credit to help the latter overcome its food shortage.

Yugoslavia – December 26-29, 1950 (KCA)

The Yugoslav National Assembly meets to discuss the budget for 1952 and decides to extend the Five-Year Plan by one year to the end of 1952, raising all production targets by 20%.

Bulgaria – December 27, 1950 (KCA)

The Bulgarian *Sobranje* passes a law for the protection of peace, providing penalties of up to 15 years of imprisonment for warmongering and war propaganda.

Yugoslavia / Romania – December 27, 1950 (PVC)

A Romanian border guard is shot down in the latest Yugoslav-Romanian border incident. In a speech delivered at the national assembly the next day, Tito strongly condemns the provocation of Yugoslav boarder guards.

Romania – December 28, 1950 (PIR)

Decree no. 259 for the organization and functioning of Popular Councils is published.

Yugoslavia – December 29, 1950 (RYN)

In a speech before the National Assembly, Edvard Kardelj presents a detailed explanation of Yugoslav support to the U.N. policy thwarting the “adventurist” policy of the North Korean Government, but also its protest to interventionist action. The speech enunciates principles corresponding closely to those of the platform of peaceful coexistence created in 1955.

Yugoslavia – December 29, 1950 (PVC)

Charles Peake informs the Foreign Office about Tito's speech during the annual debate on the Yugoslav estimates. Tito argues for the increase of the defence costs by an additional 300 million dinars.

Hungary – December 30, 1950 (KCA)

The Hungarian Government announces stringent measures to speed up industrial production for rearmament, and in conjunction with these measures introduces petrol rationing.

Romania – December 30, 1950 (PIR)

Alexandru Drăghici and Mihail Burcă, both holding the rank of general-major, are appointed deputies of the Minister of Internal Affairs.

Romania – December 30, 1950 (PIR)

Mihail Manoilescu, former minister of External Affairs (1940), dies.

Soviet Union – December 30, 1950 (KCA)

Moscow issues its response to the notes from the Western Powers, accepting the suggestion to draw up an agenda, but insisting that the proposed four-power talks should be confined to the demilitarization of Germany and “other issues concerning Germany.”

Romania – December 31, 1950 (PIR)

The balance sheet of collectivization is: 1,027 GAC's, with 67,719 families registered and 277,719 ha included in cooperatives.

Yugoslavia – December 31, 1950 (KCA)

It is officially announced in Belgrade that 11,327 persons will be released from imprisonment under a New Year amnesty, the majority being peasants who were imprisoned for not delivering wheat under the Government's annual purchase order.

1951**Hungary – 1951 (HC)**

The first Hungarian publication of all works of Lenin is begun.

Romania – 1951 (PIR)

The General Direction for Metrology is organized under the State Committee for Technology. The Metrology Institute is founded; in 1957 it would be transformed into the State Office for Metrology.

Romania – 1951 (PIR)

Construction of the Bicaz Power Plants, which would have a projected capacity of 210,000 kW, starts. It is completed in 1960.

Romania – 1951 (PIR)

The Airplane Factory in Brasov is constructed.

January 1951

Soviet Bloc – January 1951 (MMS) (NR)

A secret meeting is held in Moscow. Some observers claim Stalin tells the states of the Soviet Bloc to prepare for war, started by the West, in Europe.

Hungary – January 3, 1951 (OSA)

Drugs made of medicinal herbs are no longer available in Hungarian drugstores. The Carmelite order used to deal with medicinal herbs, but they are allegedly persecuted by the Hungarian regime. Carmelite friars used to live growing medicinal herbs, and the government tried to force them to reveal their secrets. One friar in charge of herb cultivation was allegedly tortured to death without revealing his secrets. Without Carmelite knowledge, cultivation is unsuccessful.

Soviet Bloc / U.S. – January, 1951 (LBC)

Truman's State of the Union address is given. He warns that the U.S. "will fight if fight we must, to keep our freedom and prevent justice from being destroyed". He adds, "we are willing...to negotiate honorable settlements with the Soviet Union," but will "not engage in appeasement". According to Truman, the "only realistic road to peace" is for the U.S. and the rest of the free world to build up their strength to the point where "the Soviet rulers may face the facts and lay aside their plans to take over the world". Washington will, if needed, prepare for war mobilization. The economic and military aid to the allies must continue. "The defense of Europe is part of our own defense," he said.

Hungary – January-February 1951 (HC)

Collective farming campaign begins. According to the newspapers, more and more farmers enter the cooperative system every day.

Czechoslovakia – January 1, 1951 (KCA)

Czechoslovakia adopts a new industrial calendar in effect from this day forward that divides the year into four equal quarters of 91 days, making a total of 364 days, disposing of December 31. The new calendar will be applied only to economics and industry.

Hungary – January 1, 1951 (REV)

The Labor Code comes into force, superseding the collective agreements for each industry.

Hungary / Austria – January 1, 1951 (HC)

According to the census, the Hungarian minority population of Austria reaches 11,000.

Bulgaria / Turkey – January 4, 1951 (OSA)

Report about the personal experience of an anti-communist Bulgarian who escaped in Turkey and his persecution from 1945 to 1951. In particular, he talks about the time spent in prison and the torture that he had to suffer.

Yugoslavia – January 5, 1951 (KCA)

The People's Assembly of Macedonia, one of the Federative Republics of Yugoslavia, passes a law prohibiting Muslim women from wearing veils.

Hungary – January 6, 1951 (HC)

Decree 9/1951 by the Hungarian Council of Ministers announces that a Folk Art Institute will be established in order to facilitate the development of folk art forms and initiate a popular folk art movement. Decree 10/1951 states that the Observatory Institution, the Linguistic Institution, the Biology Institution of Tihany and the History Institution will be administered by the Hungarian Academy of Sciences.

Hungary / Yugoslavia – January 6, 1951 (PVC)

The Hungarian government sends another note to Yugoslavia protesting the ongoing incidents at the Hungarian-Yugoslav border.

Poland – January 8, 1951 (PSN)

The Polish Government nationalizes all pharmacies.

Poland / Soviet Union – January 8, 1951 (PSN)

A new Polish citizenship law states that Polish citizens can only be citizens of one country, and those who lost their citizenship due to border changes would need to take the citizenship of their new country, usually the Soviet Union.

Yugoslavia / Hungary – January 11, 1951 (PVC)

In Novi Sad verdict is reached in the case of eight alleged spies, most of whom are Hungarians. The accused are said to have organized subversive activities in Vojvodina.

Romania – January 13, 1951 (PIR)

The regime for milk collection is established.

Hungary – January 14, 1951 (HC)

Statutory rule 1951:2 by the Hungarian Presidential Council states that the sport organizations must be reorganized following socialist ideology. The National Physical Education and Sports Committee is founded.

GDR / West Germany – January 15, 1951 (KCA)

Adenauer replies to Grotewohl's proposal at a press conference. While avoiding any direct reply to the East German Government, he indirectly rejects Grotewohl's

proposal and restates the conditions under which, in West Germany's view, Germany should be reunited and all-German elections held.

Yugoslavia – January 17, 1951 (KCA)

The People's Assembly of Serbia passes a law prohibiting Muslim women from wearing veils.

Yugoslavia / U.S. – January 17, 1951 (HWC)

The State Department urges the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development to give further loans to Yugoslavia, emphasizing its strategic importance, and the value of Greece and Turkey to Western defense strategy.

Poland – January 18, 1951 (PSN)

A new law abolishes **May 3** as National Day and designates some church holidays as work days.

Hungary – January 19, 1951 (KCA)

The Hungarian Foreign Ministry notifies all foreign Embassies and Legations in Budapest that their staff's movement throughout the country will be restricted.

Hungary – January 19, 1951 (HC)

The Hungarian Council of Ministers establishes the Thrift Committee.

Yugoslavia / U.K. – January 19-February 3, 1951 (PVC)

Leading Yugoslav Communist politicians Milovan Djilas and Vladimir Dedijer visit the United Kingdom. During their stay, Milovan Djilas, one of Tito's closest associates, makes the first official request for military aid from the United Kingdom.

Soviet Union / Germany / U.K. – January 20, 1951 (KCA)

In a note to the British Government, the Soviet Government accuses Britain and other Western powers of "re-creating a German army, preparing aggressive actions against the Soviet Union and the countries of Eastern Europe, as well as generally 'remilitarizing' Western Germany and seeking to rehabilitate Germany's war industry."

FRG – January 21, 1951 (KCA)

In a broadcast Dr. Schumacher, the Social Democratic Leader, defends the Federal Government's attitude towards Grotewohl's offer, condemning his letter as propaganda to produce all-German talks before a possible four-power conference.

Hungary – January 21, 1951 (KCA)

The Hungarian Government re-imposes the rationing of basic foodstuffs including sugar, flour, and starch products such as noodles.

Soviet Union / U.S. – January 21, 1951 (CWC)

Politburo member Peter Pospelov accuses the United States of aiming for war with the Soviet Union ever since the time of Woodrow Wilson.

Hungary – January 22, 1951 (KCA)

The new order restricting the movement of foreign diplomats comes into effect. It also applies to the Soviet Embassy and other Eastern European embassies.

Hungary – January 23, 1951 (HC)

The Central Statistical Office publishes the economic achievements of the 1950 plan. Industrial production was increased by 35.1%, grain production for bread grew by 9.2%.

Soviet Union / Western Bloc – January 23, 1951 (KCA)

The Western replies to the Soviet note of **December 30, 1950** are handed to Vyshinsky. The notes are identical in terms and request clarification of the Soviet Government's attitude regarding the scope of the proposed conference, repeating their earlier suggestion that the conference should have as wide of an agenda as possible.

Romania – January 24, 1951 (PIR)

The second anniversary celebration of the Militia's founding takes place.

GDR – January 25, 1951 (PLC)

The GDR abolishes the German identity cards.

Poland / Vatican – January 25, 1951 (PSN)

A protest campaign is launched against the Vatican's anti-Polish policy. The newspaper *Trybuna Ludu* informs its readers that voices from a variety of the masses have called for the abolition of the extraordinary and provisional nature of the church administration in the western territories. The Government carries this through on **January 27**.

Romania – January 26, 1951 (PIR)

The resolution of the Political Bureau of the CC of PMR regarding the activity of the newspaper *Scânteia* is published. The press campaign against kulaks is intensified.

Yugoslavia / U.K. – January 26, 1951 (HWC)

At the meeting of the North Atlantic Council Deputies, the U.K. representative points out that his Government regards Yugoslavia as one of the chief danger points for 1951. The other NATO members hold the same view.

Austria / Yugoslavia – January 27, 1951 (KCA)

Austria and Yugoslavia sign an agreement providing for the restoration of normal

diplomatic relations between the two countries and the appointment of Ministers in Vienna and Belgrade.

Poland – January 27, 1951 (KCA)

The Polish Government demands that the temporary Church administration of the former German dioceses in Western Poland be terminated and that the Polish Church authorities name permanent bishops to the dioceses concerned.

Poland – January 27, 1951 (KCA)

A decree is issued in Warsaw that introduces the first petrol rationing.

Romania – January 27, 1951 (PIR)

The State Archives are transferred from the Ministry of Public Education to the Ministry of the Interior.

Romania – January 28-February 7, 1951 (PIR)

The 9th edition of the World University Winter Games takes place in Poiana Braşov (Oraşul Stalin).

Hungary – January 29, 1951 (HC)

The Presidency of the National Confederation of Hungarian Trade Unions decides to establish trade union sport clubs based on a common system. These sport clubs will be: Vasas (iron industry), Bányász (mining), Vörös Lobogó (textile industry), Építők (construction industry), Lokomotív (machine industry), Szikra (chemical industry), Petőfi (public servants), Kinizsi (food industry) and Vörös Meteor (trade and finance).

Hungary / France / U.K. / U.S. – January 29, 1951 (LBC)

In response to a Hungarian measure restricting the movement of U.S. diplomats to a 20 mile radius of the Hungarian capital, the U.S. restricts the movement of Hungarian diplomats to a radius of 18 miles from the White House. One-week later Britain and France also impose travel restrictions on Hungarian diplomats.

Poland – January 30, 1951 (KCA)

An official announcement in Warsaw states that the five apostolic temporary administrators have left their dioceses and that five priests have been selected as Vicars-Generals to the five Archbishoprics.

Romania – January 31, 1951 (PIR)

Decree no. 16 against old exploiters, identified among bankers, big industrial owners, merchants and landowners.

February 1951

Yugoslavia / France/ U.K. / U.S. – February 1951 (KCA)

Throughout February, the U.S., Britain and France assure Yugoslavia that they will consider acting in response to Soviet satellite threats made against the country.

Yugoslavia / U.S. – February 3, 1951 (HWC)

The Yugoslavs make another request for arms support from the U.S. This would require a departure from the policy of not supplying the Yugoslavs with arms.

Soviet Union / U.S. / West Germany – February 5, 1951 (CWC)

The Soviet Union responds to the American note of **January 23**, accusing the United States of rearming West Germany.

Yugoslavia / U.K. – February 5, 1951 (HWC)

The British Chiefs of Staff consider what action should be taken in the event of an isolated attack on Yugoslavia. They recommend that the great powers take interim measures: this would later facilitate U.N. action, and influence positively the votes of wavering states in the General Assembly, both of which would be difficult if Tito were overthrown by a puppet regime. The British suggestion is approved at Anglo-American military-political discussions in early March 1951.

Soviet Bloc / U.S. – February 8, 1951 (LBC)

Congress approves sending additional U.S. troops to Europe.

Yugoslavia / U.K. – February 10, 1951 (HWC)

The Yugoslavs give the British the first list of their arms and ammunition requirements.

Yugoslavia / U.K. – February 12, 1951 (HWC)

Anthony Eden, the Shadow Foreign Secretary, makes a Commons appeal to the Government to produce a statement about the threat to Yugoslavia, which he describes “as a Balkan-Korean problem”.

Austria / Yugoslavia – February 13, 1951 (KCA)

Yugoslavia and Austria sign a trade agreement providing for trade exchanges of \$28 million in 1951.

Hungary – February 13, 1951 (HC)

The National Theatre in Budapest presents *Az élet hídja* (“The bridge of life”) by Gyula Háy.

Poland / Romania – February 14, 1951 (PIR)

Wojcech Wrosek, extraordinary and plenipotentiary Ambassador of the People’s Republic of Poland presents his accreditation letters in Bucharest.

Poland / Soviet Union – February 15, 1951 (PSN)

An agreement regarding a change of borders between Poland and the Soviet Union

is signed in Moscow. The agreement gives Poland a region in the Hrubieszow Mountains and the Soviet Union parts of the districts of Hrubieszow and the Zmosc region. The agreement is supposed to give Poland “access to oil reserves and solve community issues.”

Yugoslavia / Greece – February 15, 1951 (PVC)

The Greek-Yugoslav postal services are resumed and the first train from Skopje leaves for Greece.

Soviet Union – February 16, 1951 (KCA)

Moscow radio broadcasts the text of answers given by Stalin during an interview with the Soviet paper *Pravda* in which he denies a statement made three days before by Attlee stating that the Soviet Government had not demobilized its armed forces after the war.

Soviet Union – February 16 and 25, 1951 (KCA)

Elections to the Supreme Soviets take place in the 16 Republics of the USSR. It is subsequently reported that over 99% of the electorate voted, with 99.76% of the votes being cast for candidates of the joint Communist and non-party bloc.

Soviet Union / U.K. – February 17, 1951 (KCA)

The British Government sends a reply to the Soviet note of January 20, denying all of its charges.

Czechoslovakia / France – February 17, 1951 (KCA)

The Czechoslovak Government orders the French Consul-General in Bratislava to leave the country within 48 hours, as he is believed to be involved in economic, political, and military espionage.

Czechoslovakia / France – February 17, 1951 (KCA)

French Consul-General in Bratislava Etienne Manach is forced to leave Czechoslovakia.

Poland / Belgium / Denmark / Luxembourg / The Netherlands – February 17, 1951 (KCA)

It is announced in Warsaw that the Polish Government has sent notes to the Belgian, Danish, Netherlands and Luxembourg governments asking them to use their influence with the Great Powers to speed up the calling of a four-power conference to prevent German rearmament.

Soviet Union – February 17, 1951 (REV)

Pravda publishes an interview with Stalin, in which he states that he does not think a third world war is inevitable.

Yugoslavia – February 18, 1951 (PVC)

Tito delivers a speech at the party cell of the Yugoslav guards. He expresses his confidence in the Marxist line of Yugoslav domestic and foreign policy. He condemns the Chinese attack against Korea and assures his audience that Yugoslavia will fight for its independence in case of an enemy attack. Probably the main aim of Tito's speech is to gain the support of the hard liners within the army in case of a war.

Yugoslavia / U.S. – February 20, 1951 (PVC)

Admiral Manola's plane with United States markings mistakenly enters into Yugoslav territory from Austria. He leaves the Yugoslav airspace north of Subotica. The reaction of the Yugoslav authorities is surprisingly calm. First the Yugoslavs suspect that the incidents might be a deliberate Soviet provocation but later the United States apologizes for the disorientation of the American military plane.

Czechoslovakia – February 22, 1951 (KCA)

In a speech to the Central Committee of the Czechoslovak Communist Party, President Gottwald accuses Vladimir Clementis, Foreign Minister until his dismissal in **March 1950**, of complicity in a plot to take over power in the Communist Party and overthrow the régime.

Hungary – February 22, 1951 (HC)

The Opera House in Budapest presents *Csínom Palkó* by Ferenc Farkas.

GDR / FRG – February 22, 1951 (KCA)

In preparation for the Four Power conference to take place in early March, it is announced that Adenauer will be informed to the fullest possible extent of any Four-Power discussions on Germany, and that the Powers will consider any views that the German Federal Government might wish to present.

Yugoslavia / Soviet Union – February 22, 1951 (HWC)

Tito publicly implies that Yugoslavia will fight on the side of the West if there is a Soviet attack through Austrian territory on Italy or Greece.

Bulgaria / Hungary / Romania / U.K. / U.S. – February 23, 1951 (PVC)

The British Embassy in Washington informs the Foreign Office of an American note proposing that the governments of both the United States and United Kingdom formally accuse Hungarian, Romanian, and Bulgarian governments of violating their respecting peace treaties. The Foreign Office rejects the possibility of sending common notes of protest based on the above-mentioned lines.

Poland / Belgium – February 24, 1951 (KCA)

The Belgian Government issues a response to the request of the Polish Government stating that, while it too wishes to prevent Germany from becoming a danger,

interference by the Belgian Government is unnecessary because the four powers have already agreed to meet to discuss the issue.

Soviet Union / U.K. – February 24, 1951 (KCA)

The Soviet Government sends another note to the British Government, reiterating the earlier charges it made against the British and other Western governments.

Yugoslavia – February 24, 1951 (KCA)

Commercial and railway traffic between Yugoslavia and Greece resumes under an agreement between the two governments.

Hungary – February 25-March 2, 1951 (HC)

The 2nd congress of the Hungarian Workers' Party takes place in Budapest. The indicators of the Five-Year Plan are significantly increased. It is stated that the most important aims of the party are industrialization, agricultural development, the consolidation of state power and the establishment of party organizations (mostly in rural areas). The statement also emphasizes the significance of class struggle and communist discipline.

Czechoslovakia – February 26, 1951 (KCA)

The Czechoslovak Ministry of Internal Trade announces the reintroduction of bread and flour rationing.

Czechoslovakia – February 27, 1951 (KCA)

Contrary to the earlier belief that Clementis had escaped abroad, it is announced in Prague that he and other prominent Communists were arrested in the course of a widespread party purge, and that he will be charged with espionage, treachery and with working to set up a separate Slovak Republic.

Hungary – February 27, 1951 (KCA)

The Hungarian Government re-imposes the rationing of butter, fats, bacon and soap.

Yugoslavia / Hungary – February 27, 1951 (PVC)

The county court at Osijek passes a verdict in the trial of Hungarian agents and sentences the accused to up to 10 years of imprisonment.

Soviet Union – February 28, 1951 (KCA)

Under a decree issued by the Soviet Government and the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the USSR, Moscow announces that price reductions between 10-22% will be introduced starting on March 1.

Hungary – February 28, 1951 (HC)

Decree 59/1951 by the Hungarian Council of Ministers announces that the supply

of grease and soap will be regulated, and grease and soap stamps will be introduced.

Yugoslavia / U.K. / U.S. – February 28, 1951 (PVC)

The first American-British military talks on military help to Yugoslavia take place in Washington.

Yugoslavia – February 28-March 2, 1951 (KCA)

During its session, the Yugoslav National Assembly approves a new penal code, setting the maximum prison sentences to eight years for those officials guilty of unlawful imprisonment, abolishing forced labor camps and trials by administrative organs, and reducing to one year the maximum sentence for peasants failing to deliver their quota of agricultural produce. The National Assembly also confirms a Government decree dissolving the State Control Commission, transferring its power to the responsible elected bodies at all levels from factory committees to the Central Government.

March 1951

Hungary – March, 1951 (HC)

Felszabadult Föld (“The liberated Land”), a film directed by Frigyes Bán, is first shown.

Poland – March, 1951 (PSN)

Seven leaders of Jehovah's Witnesses are tried for subversion in the Warsaw District Military Court.

Hungary – March 2, 1951 (HC)

The first meeting of the recently elected new leaders of the Hungarian Workers' Party takes place. General Secretary: Mátyás Rákosi. Members of the Political Committee: Antal Apró, Mihály Farkas, Ernő Gerő, József Harustyák, András Hegedüs, Márton Horváth, János Kádár, Károly Kiss, István Kovács, Imre Nagy, Mátyás Rákosi, József Révai, Sándor Rónai, István Szabó, Zoltán Vas, Sándor Zöld and Mihály Zsofinyecz.

Romania – March 2, 1951 (PIR)

The resolution of the CC of PMR and of the Government regarding the administrative and economic consolidation of GAC's is issued.

Soviet Union / France / U.K. / U.S. – March 4-June 21, 1951 (LBC)

The meeting of the deputy foreign ministers of the four great powers takes place. The delegates manage to agree on the topics to be discussed. – June 9. The Western powers invite the USSR for a meeting of the four powers' foreign ministers. The Soviet Union rejects the invitation. – The talks fail completely.

Czechoslovakia / India / UK – March 5, 1951 (KCA)

It is announced in New Delhi that Kratochvil, the Czechoslovak Ambassador in India, and his family left Bombay for the United Kingdom. The text of a letter left behind by Kratochvil, in which he states his dissatisfaction with the Communist régime in Czechoslovakia, is released.

GDR / Soviet Union / France / U.K. / U.S. – March 5, 1951 (KCA)

The preliminary conference of representatives of the four Powers opens in Paris. At the commencement of the conference, the representatives of the four countries receive a request from the East German Government to place the issue of a German peace treaty on the agenda.

Yugoslavia / U.K. – March 5, 1951 (HWC)

Ernest Bevin recommends that the Cabinet agrees in principle to supply Yugoslavia with arms and equipment subject to availabilities.

Romania – March 6, 1951 (PIR)

A great festive assembly at the Giulești Theater takes place in the presence of the members of the Council of Ministers, celebrating 6 years since the installation of the first democratic government.

Yugoslavia / U.S. – March 7, 1951 (LKT)

In its estimates written in “The Position of the United States with Respect to Yugoslavia”, the NSC envisions a more active role for the United States and NATO in sustaining Yugoslavia's independence. Later in the same month, President Truman approves its recommendation.

Czechoslovakia / Italy – March 9, 1951 (KCA)

It is officially announced in Prague that the Italian Cultural Institute has been closed down.

Yugoslavia / Soviet Bloc / France / U.K. / U.S. – March 9, 1951 (KCA)

The Yugoslav Ambassadors in Washington, London and Paris present an official Yugoslav White Book listing in detail the anti-Yugoslav activities of the Cominform countries.

Hungary – March 10, 1951 (HC)

Decree 1003/1951 by the Hungarian Council of Ministers announces that March 15 (the anniversary of the 1848 revolution) is no longer a Hungarian national day.

Romania – March 10, 1951 (PIR)

Unified hospitals and anti-epidemic sanitary centers are formed.

Yugoslavia / U.K. – March 10-17, 1951 (PVC)

A Yugoslav parliamentary delegation visits the United Kingdom on the invitation of the Interparliamentary Union.

Yugoslavia / Greece – March 17, 1951 (HWC)

The first Simplon-Orient express, re-routed to avoid Bulgaria, passes through Greece to Yugoslavia for the first time since World War II.

Bulgaria / Yugoslavia – March 17, 1951 (PVC)

The Bulgarian Government sends a note of protest to the Yugoslav Government stating that a Yugoslav aircraft entered into Bulgarian airspace on March 8 and stayed in Bulgarian airspace for more than half an hour. The note also protests that Todor Todorovic was stopped at Belgrade's airport on March 3 despite his diplomatic immunity.

Hungary / Yugoslavia – March 17, 1951 (PVC)

The Hungarian Government sends another note to Yugoslavia protesting twelve new border incidents.

Yugoslavia / U.K. – March 17, 1951 (PVC)

British Ambassador Charles Peake is informed that a recall of reserve officers and soldiers begins on **May 1** for a period of three months.

Romania – March 12, 1951 (PIR)

The directives of the CC of PMR regarding the election of party leadership organs are published. Excesses committed during the collectivization are unveiled on this occasion.

Soviet Union – March 12, 1951 (KCA)

The Supreme Soviet of the USSR passes a law for the defense of peace, condemning war propaganda of any kind and making it a severe legal offense.

Hungary – March 13, 1951 (KCA)

The Hungarian Government reintroduces milk rationing.

Romania – March 13, 1951 (PIR)

Elections for PMR leadership are organized. In Gheorghiu-Dej's own words, the party had to be "Romanianized", the best candidates being "workers who had demonstrated already the nature of their character in works requiring responsibility."

Czechoslovakia – March 14, 1951 (KCA)

It is announced in Prague that General Reicin and Svermova have also been arrested for complicity in the plot to overthrow the régime.

Czechoslovakia – March 14, 1951 (KCA)

Prague radio announces that Archbishop Josef Beran, who has been held *incommunicado* in his place in Prague since 1949, has been banished from the capital and fined an undisclosed sum due to his “negative attitude” towards the church laws.

Hungary / Yugoslavia – March 16, 1951 (HC)

The Hungarian Government raises objections in a memorandum to Yugoslavia because of the border violations.

Poland – March 17, 1951 (KCA)

It is announced that Zygmunt Modzelewski, Foreign Minister since 1947, has been released from his post on ground of ill-health, and is being succeeded by Stanislaw Skrzyszewski.

Czechoslovakia / Vatican – March 18, 1951 (KCA)

The Vatican issues a declaration stating that all those responsible for the persecution of the Roman Catholic Church in Czechoslovakia have *ipso facto* incurred excommunication.

Hungary – March 18, 1951 (HC)

Statutory rule 1951:10 by the Presidential Council states the amount of the state collections of agricultural produce for 1951-1952.

GDR – March 20, 1951 (KCA)

The East German Ministry of the Interior announces that the Christian Science movement in Eastern Germany has been banned and its premises closed.

Romania / Soviet Union – March 20, 1951 (PIR)

Romania and the Soviet Union sign an agreement regarding the exchange of goods and payment for the year 1951.

Yugoslavia / U.S. – March 20, 1951 (CUY)

The latest National Intelligence Estimate on Yugoslavia entitled “Probability of an Invasion of Yugoslavia in 1951” is completed.

Yugoslavia / U.K. / U.S. – March 20, 1951 (PVC)

The note of the meeting of a joint U.S.-U.K. military planning committee states that the American delegation has examined the advantages and disadvantages of utilizing nuclear weapons in case Yugoslavia is attacked. The British Chief of Staff deals with the American proposal during its meeting on March 21 and suggests consulting with other members of the United Nations before any nuclear weapons might be used.

Czechoslovakia / U.K. – March 23, 1951 (KCA)

After receiving asylum in Britain, former Czechoslovak Ambassador to India Kratochvil arrives in London.

Bulgaria / Romania – March 25, 1951 (PIR)

A commercial accord between RPR and the People's Republic of Bulgaria is signed.

Hungary – March 29, 1951 (HC)

The leaders of the Democratic Youth Association dismiss Lajos Szűcs. The new General Secretary is István Dénes.

Poland – March 29-April 6, 1951 (PSN)

Labor Party activists Antoni Antczak, Stanisław Bukowski, Josef Kwasiborski, Jan Hoppe and Cecylia Weker are put on trial. The defendants allegedly had helped the Gestapo during the Second World War.

Soviet Union / U.S. – March 29, 1951 (PLC)

In the United States Julius and Ethel Rosenberg are found guilty of passing secret information about nuclear weapons to the Soviet Union and are sentenced to death.

Romania – March 30, 1951 (PIR)

The General Direction of the People's Security is reorganized, incorporating external intelligence tasks and counter-espionage.

Bulgaria / Yugoslavia – March 30, 1951 (PVC)

The head of the Yugoslav diplomatic mission in Sofia is expelled from Bulgaria.

April 1951

Poland - April 1951 (OSA)

Marshall Konstanty Rokossowski orders the formation of a regular paratroop corps for Poland.

Poland / U.K. – April 2, 1951 (KCA)

It is announced in London that Poland has refused to pay the United Kingdom a first installment of 400,000 British pounds that was due March 31 as agreed in the Anglo-Polish Trade Agreement of 1949.

Soviet Union – April 2-6, 1951 (KCA)

Moscow announces the first awards of the International Stalin Peace Prizes for the year 1950, which were established in 1949 to commemorate Stalin's 70th birthday.

Hungary / Yugoslavia – April 3, 1951 (PVC)

Hungary sends a note of protest to Yugoslavia claiming that the Hungarian Chargé d'Affaires was brutally insulted by the Yugoslav secret police.

U.S. – April 4, 1951 (LBC)

The U.S. Senate approves President Truman's decision to place four U.S. divisions under Eisenhower's command, but the President must consult with the Congress before sending any more divisions to Europe.

Hungary – April 5, 1951 (REV)

In the so-called Anti-Bolshevik Guard trial, Szilárd Gyimesi and Leó Matók are sentenced to death, and their associates are sentenced either to life imprisonment or prison terms of 3–17 years, for conspiracy against the state and acts of sabotage. The executions take place on **October 13**. Another 30–40 young people are arrested and sentenced in the same case during the year.

Bulgaria / Romania – April 5, 1951 (PIR)

Dobor Terpesev, Ambassador of Bulgaria in Bucharest, presents his accreditation letters.

Yugoslavia / U.K. – April 5, 1951 (HWC)

The British Cabinet approves another immediate credit of £4 million to Yugoslavia.

Yugoslavia – April 6, 1951 (KCA)

The Yugoslav Government issues a decree reducing its number of ministries from 34 to 19.

Yugoslavia / Greece – April 10, 1951 (OEH)

Yugoslavia concludes a trade and payments agreement with Greece.

Yugoslavia – April 11, 1951 (KCA)

As a further step in the decentralization of the economic structure, it is announced that 108 of Yugoslavia's largest machine building factories, oil producing centers and six refineries will pass from Federal control to that of the six constituent Republics.

Yugoslavia / France – April 11, 1951 (KCA)

The French Government announces that "deliveries of a military character" will form part of French exports to Yugoslavia under their recent trade agreement.

Czechoslovakia / France – April 12, 1951 (KCA)

It is announced in Prague that the Czechoslovak Government has requested the French Government to close down the French Consulate-General in Bratislava before April 26 and to recall the French Vice-Consul in that city, Maurice Michelot. The Czechoslovak Government also announces its intentions to close the Consulate in Marseilles and issues a note to the French Government demanding the closure of the French Institute in Prague.

Yugoslavia – April 12, 1951 (CUY)

The Yugoslav Government admits in a press statement that it is seeking arms from abroad through commercial channels.

Czechoslovakia / France – April 13, 1951 (KCA)

As a result of Czechoslovakia's actions, the French Government demands that the Masaryk Institute in Paris and the Czechoslovak Consulate in Algiers be closed down.

Yugoslavia / France – April 14, 1951 (KCA)

Yugoslavia and France sign three agreements regulating commerce and trade between the two countries.

Hungary – April 15, 1951 (KCA/REV)

It is announced in Budapest that bread and meat rationing will be introduced.

Yugoslavia / U.S. – April 16, 1951 (KCA)

President Truman notifies the U.S. Congress that he has authorized the shipment of \$29 million worth of raw materials and similar supplies to Yugoslavia under the 1949 Mutual Defense Assistance Act.

Soviet Union – April 16, 1951 (KCA)

The Soviet State Planning Commission and the Central Statistical Board announce the results of the 1946-1950 Five-Year Plan, stating that it had been "successful" and that principal targets had been "exceeded by a large margin."

Yugoslavia / U.S. – April 18, 1951 (KCA)

Washington announces that the Yugoslav Government has agreed to full U.S. supervision of the use of raw materials provided under the 1949 Act.

Yugoslavia / U.K. – April 18, 1951 (KCA)

Britain announces that it has granted Yugoslavia 4 million additional British pounds, bringing the total amount of British loans for Yugoslavia to 22 million British pounds.

Hungary – April 20, 1951 (HC)

The Hungarian Presidential Council dismisses Sándor Zöld. The new Interior Minister is Árpád Házi. According to the official announcement Sándor Zöld and his family committed suicide before he could have been arrested.

Hungary / U.S. – April 21, 1951 (KCA)

The Hungarian Government announces that it will release Robert Vogeler, who had been sentenced to 15 years' imprisonment for alleged espionage in February 1950. Negotiations between the U.S. and Hungarian governments commenced several months before, the two negotiating the terms of Vogeler's release.

Hungary / U.K. – April 23, 1951 (KCA)

A Foreign Office spokesman in London says that the British Legation in Budapest has been asked for a fresh report on the possibilities of obtaining Sander's release.

Romania / Yugoslavia – April 23, 1951 (PVC)

According to Yugoslav charges, a Romanian border patrol crossed the border line close to Velika Kikinda and 30 other Romanian guards shot at the Yugoslav border guards.

Czechoslovakia / U.S. – April 25, 1951 (KCA)

The U.S. Embassy in Prague announces that it has requested the Czechoslovak Government to inquire into the whereabouts of William Oatis, a correspondent of the Associated Press in Prague who had been missing for several days. The Czechoslovak Government announces the next day that Oatis had been arrested on charges of carrying out various activities hostile to the Czechoslovak State.

Hungary – April 27-28, 1951 (HC)

The first congress of the Hungarian Writers' Union in Budapest takes place. The socialist realist development of Hungarian literature is discussed, particularly considering the second congress' resolution of the Hungarian Workers' Party. The head of the association will be József Darvas, the secretary Lajos Kónya.

Hungary / U.S. – April 28, 1951 (HC)

The governments of Hungary and the United States reach certain agreements. Vogeler, an American citizen arrested on February 21, 1950, will be deported from Hungary. The Hungarian consulates in New York and Cleveland will be reopened. The service of *Voice of America*, a radio station broadcasted from Munich, will be stopped. Hungarian assets now in the American occupation zone of Germany can be brought back to Hungary.

Hungary – April 29, 1951 (HC)

The suburban railway line between Budapest and Csepel is opened.

May 1951**Poland - May 1951 (OSA)**

It is reported that police activities on the Baltic coast are being strongly intensified, especially in Gdynia, which is expected to become a naval base. Possible new expulsions of the coastal population are rumored to be in preparation.

Hungary / France – May 2, 1951 (OSA)

Socialist Hungary participates in the Paris International Fair held at Porte Versailles, at the border of the city. In the Hungarian pavilion several items are shown: products of the Mátyás Rákosi Factories and the Goldberger Textile

Factory, salami, butcher products, wines, and spirits, but also radios, telephones, lightbulbs, tractors, porcelain. Hungary needs exports to get dollar reserves. However, according to critics, all those items are exported which are difficult to get in Hungary.

Poland / England / United States - May 1951 (OSA)

Propaganda posters directed against the British and especially against the United States are being stuck along the streets and on public buildings. Following the events in Korea, these posters accuse the United States of being the aggressor state.

Poland – May 1951 (OSA)

Conscription in Poland assumes noticeable proportions. Poor military training conditions persuade many dissatisfied youths to leave Poland. It is reported that among these, many who were born between 1929 and 1931 are expected to arrive in Western Germany.

Hungary – May 1951 (REV)

Resettlement of ‘former exploiters’ begins. More than 12,000 people in Budapest are forced to leave their homes. They are billeted on kulak families in small villages, where they often have to live in inhuman conditions under a social stigma.

Albania / Yugoslavia / U.S. – May 1951 (CUY)

The League of Albanian Political Refugees in Yugoslavia is formed. The U.S. sees it as Tito’s attempt to create an anti-Soviet, pro-Yugoslav regime in Albania and return to the status of 1944-1948.

Yugoslavia / U.S. – May 1951 (HWC)

Members of the U.S. Joint Intelligence Committee recommend early Yugoslav-American staff talks to coordinate the defense of the Ljubljana Gap in advance of the Julian Alps. See **September 21**.

Yugoslavia / France / U.K. / U.S. – May 1951 (LKT)

The Americans inform their partners that they would prefer bilateral talks with the Yugoslavs on the technicalities of military aid. The British and the French are not pleased about the American decision. The bilateral discussions take place in Washington in **May and June 1951**.

China / Yugoslavia / U.N. – May 1951 (HWC)

The Yugoslav leaders vote with the Western powers for the imposition of an arms and military materials embargo on China in the UN.

Czechoslovakia / Sweden / Austria - May 1, 1951 (OSA)

A man returning from Vienna to Sweden on April 22 has said that the purge had no negative effect on the position of President Gottwald. On the contrary, he even managed to improve his status. The order issued by Premier Zapotocky promotes

the same view on the position of the president and even predicts that May Day celebrations will take place under the slogan “With President Gottwald for Peace and Socialism”.

Europe / U.S. – May 1, 1951 (REV)

Radio Free Europe goes on the air with covert American government support. It broadcasts in the main languages of the Soviet bloc countries.

Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union - May 2, 1951 (OSA)

On November 3, 1950, Czechoslovakia concluded a commercial agreement with USSR, but the country has not been able to fulfill the requirements for some time. Therefore, Soviet specialists have been arriving to Czechoslovakia to find the cause of the issue and resolve it. They found out that there are three branches - heavy industry, the mines, and the food industry - which prevent Czechoslovakia to fulfill their duties to USSR. In an effort to solve this issue, the USSR introduces Stakhanovism, and fires some of the managers from these industries, appointing new ones. Since then, there is progress in the quantities of goods delivered from Czechoslovakia.

Czechoslovakia / US – May 3, 1951 (KCA)

The Czechoslovak Government announces that it will not permit the Associated Press to appoint another correspondent until the charges against Oatis are investigated.

Romania – May 3, 1951 (PIR)

The collection regime for agricultural products is established.

Czechoslovakia - May 4, 1951 (OSA)

The official Hangman of Czechoslovakia is originally a citizen of Slovakia, who worked in the KOH -I - NOR shop of Bratislava. He was visiting Prague a lot and one of the nights when he got extremely drunk, he gave out his precious secret about him being the hangman. For every man he hung, he was receiving the regular salary plus a bonus of 10,000 crowns.

Czechoslovakia / France - May 4, 1951 (OSA)

Minister Adolf Hoffmeister, a dedicated Communist and the Czech Diplomatic representative in Paris was sent to Prague several weeks ago. He attended a conference alongside the Minister of Foreign Affairs, after which he has been sent to a secret prison.

Czechoslovakia - May 4, 1951 (OSA)

Based on the Bulletin of the Regional National Committee in Prague issued on 27 April, the Czechoslovak Ministry of Interior orders the set-up of the permanent regional transport boards. The transport boards will coordinate rail and road

transport facilities in their region. It will also be their duty to prepare monthly reports for the Ministry of Interior.

Yugoslavia / U.S. – May 4, 1951 (CUY)

The latest National Intelligence Estimate reviews the conclusions of NIE-29 “Probability of an Invasion of Yugoslavia in 1951”.

Yugoslavia – May 5, 1951 (KCA)

The Yugoslav Government issues a decree, effective immediately, abolishing the compulsory delivery of milk, potatoes, peas, beans, lentils, hay and straw by farmers to the State. The same decree applies to meats, effective on July 1.

Bulgaria / Yugoslavia – May 5, 1951 (PVC)

Bulgaria sends another note to Yugoslavia protesting the ongoing border incidents.

Soviet Bloc / U.S. – May 6, 1951 (LBC)

According to a report by the U.N. Economic Committee, Western Europe sold \$269 million worth of machinery to Eastern Europe in 1950, twice as much as in 1948. In the same period U.S. sales of the same products to Eastern Europe dropped by 93%. According to the State Department spokesman the Soviet export to the United States almost ceased to exist and consists of a few non-strategic materials. It dropped from the 1947 level of \$150 million to \$750 thousand in 1950.

Czechoslovakia - May 8, 1951 (OSA)

On April 23, 1951 decision was made by the Economic Committee of the Communist Party in Bratislava to eliminate the student harvesting supervisors.

Czechoslovakia - May 8, 1951 (OSA)

On April 27, 1951, the Criminal department of the Bratislava police arrested Professor and communist chairman of the liquor industry Jozef Soltz alongside Ladislav Purckart, for black marketeering with alcohol addicts.

Czechoslovakia / The Netherlands – May 9, 1951 (KCA)

The Czechoslovak Government releases J.A. Louwers, the Dutch businessman who had been sentenced to 15 years’ imprisonment in March 1950 on charges of economic sabotage and espionage.

Bulgaria – May 10, 1951 (KCA)

An official Government announcement states that Petko Kunin, former Minister of Finance and Industry, and Manol Sakelarov, former Minister of Public Works, were tried by the Sofia Supreme Court from April 26-30 on charges of taking part in the conspiracy of the late Traicho Kostov, using their offices to sabotage electrification and construction programs. They received 15- and 10-years’ imprisonment respectively. It is also announced that two other former members of

the Central Committee, Ivan Maslarov and Peter Semerdzhev, were charged with complicity in the “Petkov plot”, receiving 15- and 12-years’ imprisonment.

Hungary – May 10, 1951 (HC)

Decree 172/1951 by the Economic Council announces that the cooperatives will be given aid in order to guarantee faster economic development.

Czechoslovakia / Austria / France - May 10, 1951 (OSA)

On May 1, 1951 several French and Austrian Institutions have been closed down in Czechoslovakia: the Austrian Consulate in Brno, the French Consulate General in Bratislava, the Institut français Ernest Denis in Prague and the Maison des français in Brno and Bratislava.

Romania – May 11, 1951 (PIR)

The leader of PMR condemns abuses committed during the time of collectivization, affirming that coercion methods had been used and that gross deviations from the party line have occurred.

Czechoslovakia – May 12, 1951 (KCA)

The Czechoslovak Government issues a decree under which all children leaving school at the age of 14 can be legally directed into any branch of industry or agriculture as decided by school-leaving commissions.

Hungary – May 13, 1951 (KCA/HC)

It is officially announced in Budapest that the Hungarian Foreign Minister, Gyula Kállai has resigned and is succeeded by Károly Kiss, a member of the Politburo of the Hungarian Workers’ Party. The former Interior Minister János Kádár, the former Minister of Foreign Affairs Gyula Kállai, the former State Secretary Géza Losonczy, as well as Ferenc Donáth and Szilárd Újhelyi are arrested.

Yugoslavia / U.K. – May 14-25, 1951 (PVC)

A delegation of British MPs visits Yugoslavia. The visit is considered highly successful by members of the delegation.

Czechoslovakia - May 14, 1951 (OSA)

According to the eyewitnesses, the former prosecutor in Chief and current general Rusla was arrested in Bratislava and was taken to Lipotvar Prison. He is accused of having a connection with the Clementis affair.

Czechoslovakia - May 15, 1951 (OSA)

On May 3, 1951, an SNB sergeant Puchy Jozef was killed during a fire in the vicinity of Turzovka, Bratislava. It is assumed that he was killed by the anti-communist farmers of CADCA, they wanted to take revenge for all the killing of non and/or anti-communists by Puchy.

Czechoslovakia - May 15, 1951 (OSA)

Since 29 April 1951, permanent road and police checks have taken place in Bratislava because of the upcoming conference of satellite foreign ministers. The Hungarian, Bulgarian, Romanian, Polish, and Soviet delegations are all situated in Hotel Carlton.

Soviet Union / Hungary - May 15, 1951 (OSA)

The population of the big Soviet concentration camp near Uzhorod decreases by approximately 50%. Currently, the number of camp inmates runs to about 8,000-9,000 inmates. 10,000-15,000 prisoners are transported deeper into the USSR. The main base of supply of prisoners in this camp is in Hungary.

Hungary – May 15-18, 1951 (HC)

Session of the Hungarian Parliament takes place. The Parliament passes Law 1951.I. about the establishment of the State Office for Churches, Law II. about the modified Five-Year Plan, and Law III. about the penal code.

Yugoslavia / U.S. – May 15, 1951 (PVC)

Yugoslav General Koca Popović arrives at the United States for a non-official visit.

Czechoslovakia / U.K. – May 18, 1951 (KCA)

It is announced in London that the Czechoslovak Government has informed the British Government that Ambassador Bystricky, recently recalled to Czechoslovakia, will not be returning to Britain.

Poland / East Germany - May 18, 1951 (OSA)

According to a trade agreement, Poland will deliver to East Germany coal, agricultural products, and industrial consumer goods, while East Germany will send to Poland various raw materials. According to Radio Warsaw, the negotiations were held in a friendly atmosphere.

Czechoslovakia / Germany - May 18, 1951 (OSA)

On April 27 and 29, 1951, 540 ethnically German Refugees arrived at the border crossing point. All these refugees were kept in Eger and Reichenberg for some weeks, before being able to cross the border and enter Germany. Czech officials threatened them to accept Czech citizenship or otherwise, they would be sent to uranium mines. Two third of the refugees located in Reichenberg accepted Czech, while in Eger only a few refugees signed the citizenship documents. Overall, despite the threats, people who did not sign the papers were sent to Germany. The other half who did accept Czech citizenship was left behind in Czechoslovakia.

Czechoslovakia - May 18, 1951 (OSA)

On 26 April, a special conference took place in Prague with the representatives of the Ministry of Social Welfare, the Ministry of Industry, the Ministry of Transport and the Trade Union Central Board. The conference was held in connection with a

governmental resolution of April 24 on the mobilization of transportation means and the establishment of regional transport Boards.

Czechoslovakia / Hungary - May 18, 1951 (OSA)

According to a refugee, the former leader of the Hungarian minority in Czechoslovakia, János Esterházy has been incarcerated since October of 1949.

Hungary – May 19, 1951 (HC)

The Ministry of Religion and Education is renamed the Ministry of Education, as it is no longer responsible for religious affairs.

Hungary / FRG – May 20, 1951 (REV)

Six inmates escape from the strictly guarded labour camp at Recsk. All but one are recaptured by the end of June. Gyula Michnay reaches West Germany, where he reads the names of over 600 prisoners at Recsk over *Radio Free Europe*. The recaptured escapees are returned to Recsk. Security around the camp is tightened and a much greater number of informers are recruited among the inmates.

Poland / Soviet Union – May 22, 1951 (KCA)

A Warsaw announcement states that Soviet Foreign Minister Vyshinsky and First Deputy-Premier in the Polish Cabinet Zawadski signed an agreement in Moscow under which Poland will receive a strip of Soviet territory in the Drohobycz region, near Przemyśl, while the Soviet Union will acquire an equivalent area of Polish territory in the Lublin region.

Romania – May 22, 1951 (PIR)

The great lawyer N. Micescu, former Minister of External Affairs (1937-1938), dies in the Aiud prison.

Argentine / Yugoslavia – May 23, 1951 (KCA)

It is announced in Belgrade that the Yugoslav Government has sent a note demanding Argentina to extradite Anton Pavelic, both the former head of the 'puppet' State of Croatia and Yugoslavia's "war criminal No. 1", as a war criminal.

Soviet Bloc – May 23-June 5, 1951 (KCA)

The fourth session of the Danube Commission is held in Romania to discuss draft regulations for Danubian navigation.

Yugoslavia / Greece – May 24, 1951 (KCA)

Under the auspices of the International Red Cross, the Yugoslav Government repatriates 214 Greek children who had been taken to Yugoslavia by the Communists during the Greek Civil War.

Poland – May 25-26, 1951 (KCA)

The Polish Parliament meets and passes legislation to create a Ministry of State Farms and a Ministry of Small-scale Industry and Handicrafts.

Hungary – May 27, 1951 (HC)

Decree 1951:15 by the Hungarian Presidential Council announces that all children (age 6-14) must receive education. The systematic organization and functioning of primary schools are also regulated.

GDR / FRG – May 29, 1951 (KCA)

The Federal Ministry for All-German Affairs issues a report on armaments production in the Soviet Occupation Zone, stating that numerous countries in Eastern Germany are producing considerable amounts of defense and military materials. The report stated that the most important branch of armaments production is the mining of uranium, an industry employing 300,000 people in Eastern Germany.

Argentine / Yugoslavia – May 29, 1951 (KCA)

A spokesperson of the Argentine Foreign Ministry states that there is no possibility for Argentina to extradite Pavelic to Yugoslavia because the two countries do not have an extradition treaty.

Czechoslovakia – May 30, 1951 (OSA)

The regime is focused on oppressing universities. Some of the professors are forced to retire and others are receiving reduced salaries. Probably, the Department of Philosophy at Masaryk university will be fully eliminated and combined with the Pedagogy department. The main aim of these repressions is to get rid of the professors who are against the regime.

Czechoslovakia / Poland – May 30, 1951 (OSA)

There is serious distrust towards currency from the Czech citizens. The prices of food and products increase continuously, despite it more and more people are buying all the type of food that they can afford. This is caused by the distrust in currency. The locals decide to convert their money into edibles. This phenomenon was first noticed last year during the Polish monetary revaluation.

Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – May 30, 1951 (OSA)

Czech communist party leaders are concerned about the reaction that Czech people might have, with the overall trend of a drop in the standard of living and an increase in the prices of consumer goods. The primary reason why the communist leaders are worried is not the wellbeing of the citizens. They are afraid of the dissatisfaction towards increasing prices by the locals and the social unrest it might lead to. Overall, the drop in the standard of living is due to the calculated policy of the Soviet Union, which aims to lower the living standards of satellite countries to the level of the Soviet Union.

Soviet Union - May 30, 1951 (OSA)

Seemingly, a large segment of the Soviet labor force is used in the construction of new concentration and internment camps in Northern and Eastern Russia. The Politburo explains that the increased number of prisoners will raise the Russian supply of cheap labor.

Czechoslovakia – May 30, 1951 (OSA)

All of the Czechoslovak adolescents finishing school will be sent to work in an industry chosen by the commission. An only a very limited percentage of young people will have an opportunity to continue their studies after finishing primary education. Employing young people in different industries, such as mines, agriculture, etc. will help the government to avoid economic issues related to labor deficiency. It will also help them to prevent the creation of independent intellectuals.

Poland - May / June 1951 (OSA)

Hunger strikes take place in factories located in Łódź and Gliwice. Workers protest because of food shortages and undernourishment. It is reported that in Gliwice 300 protesters were arrested and then gradually released, but 21 of them disappeared.

June 1951

Poland - June 1951 (OSA)

A massive investigation is carried on by the Polish Security Police (UB). It aims to check the reliability of people who do not figure in UB files.

East Germany/Latvia—June/July 1951 (OSA)

Post between the German Democratic Republic and Latvia was for the large part of Spring 1950 interrupted, no post is deliverable to Latvia. An unofficial channel of contact exists between Latvia and the GDR through religious communities, through which Latvians are able to get snippets of news from the outside world and news from Latvia. One such piece of news is that in June/July of 1951 thousands of Latvian families with children were transferred to Russia without explanation.

Poland / Soviet Union - June 1951 (OSA)

Exchange of territories between Poland and the USSR is announced, regarding the border area between the two countries. This led farmers to flee towards the western part of the country, but many were stopped by the Polish Security Police.

Poland / East Germany - June 1951 (OSA)

It is reported that a special commission, consisting of high-ranking Polish and Soviet officers, visited Frankfurt/Oder. The first task of the commission was to inspect the Oder riverbank between Frankfurt and Kostrzyn. The second task was to check the efficiency of all measures taken by local police authorities against illegal border traffic between Eastern Germany and Poland.

Poland – June 1951 (OSA)

Polish authorities conduct expulsions of citizens in large cities like Warsaw, Gdynia, and Krakow, to transform them into first-category centers. Undesirable elements are reported to the police and ordered to leave. Many expellees are already moving to the Western territories.

Czechoslovakia / France – June 1, 1951 (KCA)

It is announced in Paris that the Prague office of the French news agency *Agence France Presse* has been closed down following the arrest by Czechoslovak authorities of Joseph Skricka, chief assistant to Gaton Fournier, the agency's correspondent in Prague. This closure brings the number of Western correspondents in Czechoslovakia to two.

Hungary – June 1, 1951 (HC)

The Democratic Youth Association asks students to help in the building of the Dunai Vasmű (the ironworks in Dunapentele, later Sztálinváros-Stalingrad) or to look after crops during the summer holiday.

Hungary – June 1, 1951 (REV)

The Hungarian Army is renamed as the Hungarian People's Army. September 29 is declared People's Army Day.

Yugoslavia – June 1, 1951 (YPH)

The fourth plenary meeting of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Yugoslavia deals with the legality of the methods used by the armed forces. The meeting declares illegal the methods used at the Goli Otok camp and emphasizes that rules should be obeyed.

Czechoslovakia / U.S. – June 2, 1951 (KCA)

The U.S. Government imposes a ban on travel by American nationals to Czechoslovakia.

Hungary – June 2, 1951 (HC)

The leaders of the Vörös Brigád ('Red Brigade), Éva Braun (not to be confused with Hitler's mistress) and Ferenc Rónai, anti-fascist martyrs who were killed on **January 13, 1945**, are reburied at a special plot of the Kerepesi graveyard.

Yugoslavia / Hungary – June 2, 1951 (PVC)

Yugoslav authorities expel the Hungarian Chargé d'affaires from Yugoslavia.

Yugoslavia / Soviet Bloc – June 2, 1951 (KCA)

After presenting a series of amendments to the draft regulations and having each one rejected, the Yugoslav delegation leaves the conference of the Danubian Commission.

Yugoslavia / Vatican – June 2, 1951 (PVC)

Talks between Aleš Bebler, Yugoslav Deputy Foreign Minister and Monsignor Oddi, the papal legate take place about the confinement of Archbishop Stepinac. The Yugoslav Government states its readiness to release Stepinac, on the condition that he leaves the country immediately.

Czechoslovakia – June 5, 1951 (KCA)

The dismissal of several government officials is announced in Prague.

Hungary / Yugoslavia – June 5, 1951 (PVC)

In a reply to the Yugoslav note of **June 2, 1951**, the Hungarian authorities expel the Yugoslav Chargé d'Affaires from Hungary.

Yugoslavia / U.K. – June 5, 1951 (PVC)

Yugoslavia officially informs the United Kingdom that Minister of Interior Aleksandar Ranković intends to make a private visit to London until **June 19**.

Czechoslovakia / West Germany – June 7, 1951 (OSA)

The veteran miners are very dissatisfied with the regime and have become the biggest enemy of it. The government has tried to neutralize the situation of older miners by attracting young people into mines by vain promises. Their plan failed and now it is mandatory to draft youth as miners. The young people who are obligated to work in mines either hide or flee the country and go to West Germany to ask for refugee status.

Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – June 7, 1951 (OSA)

A tremendous Sovietization process is predicted to start in schools and universities. Professional teachers are concerned that they will lose jobs and will be sent to work in the industry. They will be substituted by graduates of workers' pedagogical courses, who will be approved by the communist party to educate new generations. The primary reason why the regime wants to get rid of professional teachers, is that they remember pre-communist lifestyle and living standards. Hence, they might cause some problems for the government. Another part of the Sovietization process is to import soviet professors and teachers to Czechoslovakia.

Bulgaria / Romania / Hungary / Yugoslavia / U.S. – June 8, 1951 (CUY/HWC/KCA)

Yugoslav Foreign Minister Kardelj announces that the Yugoslav Chief of General Staff Colonel-General Koča Popović has gone to the U.S. to investigate the possibilities of purchasing military equipment from the Western Powers in light of the excessive rearmament of Hungary, Romania and Bulgaria, a perceived threat to Yugoslavia.

Hungary – June 10, 1951 (HC)

Decree 1951:18 by the Hungarian Presidential Council states that the College of Foreign Languages will be founded.

Poland / Hungary / Czechoslovakia / US - June 12, 1951 (OSA)

Satellite diplomats to the United States are leaving the US for unclear reasons. Three diplomats – Imre Horváth (Hungarian), Józef Wieniewicz (Polish), and Vladimír Outrata (Czech) return home.

Romania / Yugoslavia – July 13, 1951 (PVC)

Another incident takes place at the Yugoslav-Romanian border. Two Romanian border guards open fire on five unarmed Yugoslav citizens who are collecting hay in the field. One of them is killed.

Soviet Union - June 13, 1951 (OSA)

A sailor who making his first trip outside the Iron Curtain observes locals in the port cities of Odessa, Kherson, Nikolayev, Poti, and Tuapse. According to his testimony, in Ukrainian port towns people are complaining about low wages, high prices, and too much work. In Georgian port towns, people seem less poor and there is a large number of deportees.

Bulgaria / Yugoslavia – June 14, 1951 (PVC)

Another incident takes place at the Yugoslav-Bulgarian border. Bulgarian troops hijack Yugoslav border guard Osman Kapić at Dimitrovgrad.

Soviet Union / Iran - June 14, 1951 (OSA)

Three Soviet armored divisions near the Iranian frontier, that previously were stationed in Soviet Armenia, Georgia, and Azerbaijan, are transferred closer to the borderline with Iran. Based on these dispositions of military divisions, a Soviet offensive against Iran is plausible.

Hungary – June 15, 1951 (HC)

The fundraising campaign called “let’s help the children of the Korean heroes” raises a total of 20,100,000 forints.

Hungary – June 16, 1951 (KCA)

The Hungarian Ministry of the Interior issues a statement announcing that 924 families of “undesirable elements” were removed from Budapest between May 21 and June 15.

Hungary – June 16, 1951 (HC)

Celebratory session of the National Peace Council at the Parliament takes place. The peace statement is signed by 7,148,000 Hungarian citizens.

Hungary – June 17, 1951 (HC)

Decree 128/1951 by the Hungarian Council of Ministers announces that correspondence courses will be initiated at colleges and universities starting during the academic year of 1951-1952.

Romania – June 18, 1951 (PIR)

Through the MAN Decision no. 200, 4,580 ethnic Germans are, along with Romanians, dislocated from their home localities and assigned fixed mandatory residence in various districts in the South-East of the country. The official motivation was that 1,085 were kulaks, 76 were landowners, 982 were former collaborators of the SS and 2,537 were Schwabs living in the western part of the country, thus “not presenting guarantees for state security”.

Soviet Union - June 18, 1951 (OSA)

The Military Command for the area of Yerevan orders the withdrawal of all living in the summer youth camps in the region of Machiczivan. The camps are taken over by military units. Since June 1, mountaineer artillery units start arriving to the districts near the Iranian border. In the entire frontier area from Leninakan to Lenkoran, travel is restricted, the area is under military control. At the end of May, the military command of the Transport Fleet was transferred from Machackala to Krasnovodsk.

Yugoslavia / U.K. – June 18, 1951 (PVC)

Army General Koča Popović arrives in the United Kingdom from the United States and has an official meeting with the British chiefs of staff the same day.

Yugoslavia / U.S. – June 18, 1951 (LBC)

According to a Belgrade report the U.S. delivered \$1 million worth of weapons to Yugoslavia. – *June 19*. The Department of Defense of the U.S. affirms the report on the Yugoslav arms sale. According to the Pentagon, the U.S. and other Western countries wish to assist Yugoslavia in preserving its independence against growing Soviet pressure.

Hungary – June 19, 1951 (KCA)

It is announced in Budapest that Archbishop of Kalocsa József Grósz along with eight other defendants will be brought to trial on charges of conspiring to overthrow the democratic government.

Poland - June 19, 1951 (OSA)

Reportedly, two new military academies are being set up at the request of Marshall Konstanty Rokossowskij, in order to train and educate army officers: the Military-Political Academy and the Military Technical Academy.

Soviet Union / Poland – June 20, 1951 (OSA)

The border between Poland and the Soviet Union is the most strictly surveilled

section of the Polish borderline. On the Polish side, there are watch towers every two kilometers. On the Soviet side, surveillance is even stricter, with watch towers every half kilometer. These border areas are not densely populated. On the Polish side, cultivated land reaches up to the border. On the Soviet side, the soil is left uncultivated.

Yugoslavia / U.K. – June 21, 1951 (HWC)

The British Cabinet approves their share in the tripartite grant aid project for the period of 1951 until the end of June 1952.

Czechoslovakia / Austria – June 22, 1951 (OSA)

In order to attract new members, the Vienna Union of Czechs and Slovaks in Austria is offering inducements to visit relatives in Czechoslovakia. This opportunity is only given to applicants who are members of the communist party in Vienna, and the relatives at home must be members of the Czechoslovakian CP as well. The main aim of this organization is to enlist Slovaks and Czechs in Austria into the Austrian Communist Party.

Hungary / U.S. – June 23, 1951 (LBC)

According to the State Department the trial of archbishop József Grósz in Hungary “means the maintenance of communist pressure in order to suppress human rights and freedom” and to eliminate the moral influence of the church.

Hungary – June 26, 1951 (HC)

Statutory rule 1951:19 by the Hungarian Presidential Council states that a University of Transportation and Technology will be founded. Statutory rule 1951:28 moves the university to Szolnok.

Hungary – June 26, 1951 (HC)

Decree 1021/1951 by the Hungarian Council of Ministers announces that every year the second Sunday of August will be the Railroad Workers’ Day.

Yugoslavia / France – June 27, 1951 (HWC)

The *Conseil des Ministres* decides at the urgent request of Robert Schuman to cede captured German arms to Yugoslavia.

Hungary – June 28, 1951 (KCA) (HC)

The court issues its sentences in the Grósz case. One man is sentenced to death after having been found guilty of killing a Russian soldier in 1944.

The Supreme Court sentences József Grósz, the archbishop of Kalocsa, to 15 years and his associates to 8-13 years. They are accused of creating a movement aiming to destroy the power of the democratically elected government, trafficking with currencies and helping others flee the country.

Hungary – June 28, 1951 (HC)

Decree 253 500/1951 by the Hungarian Minister of Nutrition states that the amount of food the farmers will be given depends on the amount they provide for the country. This decree will take effect **July 1**.

Yugoslavia / U.S. – June 28, 1951 (LYE)

President Tito presents a formal request for military aid to U.S. Ambassador George Allen.

Poland - June 29, 1951 (OSA)

The Polish Congress of Scientists takes place in Warsaw and is attended by several hundred Polish scientists and delegations from other satellite countries. North Korea and China are also represented. The purpose of the Congress is to speed up the development of human society in the direction of Socialism and Communism.

Hungary / Vatican – June 29, 1951 (KCA)

The Vatican issues a decree excommunicating all of those people who had played a major part in the arrest, trial and conviction of Archbishop Grósz.

Yugoslavia / Romania – June 29, 1951 (PVC)

Politika publishes the latest Yugoslav note protesting the situation of the South Slavic minority in Romania. About 7,000 South Slavs are displaced from Northern Bačka.

Soviet Union - June 29, 1951 (OSA)

According to a letter published in *Pravda* and written by Crimean fishermen and technicians, no one can salt and pickle fish as well as Stalin. They managed to catch 4,883 tons of fish in 1951. They thank Stalin, whom they call “the best salter of fish”.

Romania / Yugoslavia – June 30, 1951 (PVC)

The Romanian press publishes the latest note of the government. According to the note of protest, 30 border incidents took place during the last quarter of the year.

Soviet Bloc – June 30-July 3, 1951 (PLC)

In Frankfurt am Main the émigré social democratic parties of the Soviet Bloc countries form the Socialist International.

July 1951**Poland - July 1951 (OSA)**

A harsh famine rages in the region of Tarnow, Southern Poland. It is reported to be the result of the state forcing peasants to deliver their grain at low fixed prices. The government refuses to supply them with goods, in order to break their resistance to collectivization.

Poland / East Germany - July 1951 (OSA)

During his visit to East Berlin, President Bierut assures that Germans employed in Poland will enjoy the same rights as Polish citizens. Poland is interested in getting skilled labor from East Germany, while the East German government desperately wants to solve its unemployment problem.

Poland - July 1951 (OSA)

It is reported that Poland's delegate to the United Nations, Katz-Suchy, will be replaced by Bierensztajn-Birecki Henryk.

Poland / North Korea - July 1951 (OSA)

Communist youth teams in Poland are reported to go from house to house asking for donations for North Korean comrades. Those who are approached usually accept in order to not be denounced as anti-Communists and enemies of the people.

Poland / Soviet Union - July 1951 (OSA)

The transfer of the population from those Polish territories exchanged with the USSR is started and done under strict UB supervision.

Poland - July 1951 (OSA)

It is reported that Catholics, as well as other church organizations, are continuously persecuted. Despite this, people often participate in divine services to express their resistance against the regime.

Poland / West Germany - July 1951 (OSA)

Despite goods officially bought by Poland might be destined to the USSR, West Germany is trying to negotiate a trade agreement with Poland, especially following the deterioration of its economic relations with Romania and Hungary.

Poland - July 1951 (OSA)

It is reported that new concentration camps for political prisoners sentenced to forced labor have been established in Szczecin and Warsaw.

Poland / Hungary - July 1951 (OSA)

It is reported that the entire Hungarian seaboard export trade will be taken away from West German ports and directed towards Polish ports.

Yugoslavia / U.S. – July 1951 (PVC)

Tito meets Brian McMahon, Democrat member of the United States Senate from Connecticut. Among other things, they discuss the fate of Archbishop Stepinac.

Romania – July 1, 1951 (PIR)

The population of Romania numbers 16,464,000 inhabitants.

Czechoslovakia / US – July 2-4, 1951 (KCA)

William Oatis and three Czechoslovak nationals employed at the Associated Press

are tried, charged with having engaged in political and military espionage in Czechoslovakia. It is reported that all plead guilty to the charges.

Hungary / U.S. – July 2, 1951 (HC)

In a note the Hungarian Government calls upon the United States to call back those officers from the US legation of Budapest who were ‘exposed’ in the Grósz trial.

Hungary – July 3, 1951 (HC/REV)

Statutory rule 1951:20 by the Presidential Council states how the most important religious officers will be chosen. The Presidential Council has to approve all appointed religious officers. A declaration by the Roman Catholic episcopal body of Hungary is published stating the Church is ready to cooperate with the government. On July 21, the bishops take the oath of allegiance to the Constitution of the Hungarian People’s Republic.

Hungary / U.S. – July 3, 1951 (LBC)

At Hungary’s request the USIS closes its library in Budapest.

Czechoslovakia / US – July 4, 1951 (KCA)

The court sentences William Oatis to 10 years’ imprisonment, and the three Czechoslovak nationals to terms ranging from 10-18 years’ imprisonment. The U.S. State Department objects the trial and the sentences.

Yugoslavia / France / U.K. / U.S. – July 5, 1951 (KCA)

After discussions between Britain, France and the U.S., the three Powers agree to make substantial grants available to Yugoslavia for the purchase of raw materials, consumer goods, and other essential supplies, adding that it is of great importance to strengthen Yugoslavia’s resistance to pressure from the Cominform States.

Yugoslavia / France / U.K. / U.S. – July 5, 1951 (KCA)

Press reports announce the total value of the grants to be given to Yugoslavia at 50 million British pounds, 35 million provided by the U.S., 10 million by the British and 5 million by the French.

Yugoslavia – July 5, 1951 (KCA)

The Yugoslav Government announces that it has agreed to release Archbishop Stepinac, who in **May 1946** was sentenced to 16 years’ hard labor on charges of collaboration with the enemy and anti-national activities, on the condition that he leaves Yugoslavia immediately.

Hungary – July 7, 1951 (HC)

Decree 137/1951 by the Council of Ministers announces that university, college and vocational school graduates will be given jobs following an organized method.

France / UK / US – July 9, 1951 (REV)

The Allied western powers announce that they consider the state of war in Germany to have ceased.

Soviet Union - July 9, 1951 (OSA)

On June 28, 1951, Stalin's younger son Vasilii delivers a special statement related to the upcoming celebration of Aviation Day in Soviet Russia. The name of Stalin is mentioned at least 15 times. Young Stalin also declares several achievements of Soviet aviation and appeals to the audience to go to Tushino airfield on Air Day, where Stalin's heroes may be watched performing acrobatics.

Korea – July 10, 1951, (REV)

Talks begin on a ceasefire in Korea.

Yugoslavia / Italy / Trieste / U.S. – July 11, 1951 (KCA)

The Italian Prime Minister De Gasperi reaffirms Italy's claim to full sovereignty over Trieste and appeals for friendly discussions on the subject with the Yugoslav Government. The U.S. State Department announces that the U.S. Ambassador in Rome has been authorized to assure the Italian Government that American policy towards Trieste continues to be guided by the spirit of the tripartite declaration.

Bulgaria / Yugoslavia – July 12, 1951 (PVC)

Another Yugoslav border guard is taken hostage by Bulgarians north-east of Zaječar. He manages to escape back to Yugoslavia within 24 hours.

UK - July 13, 1951 (OSA)

Cardinal Griffin, Archbishop of Westminster, orders a special day of prayer throughout the archdiocese for "the martyred Church of Eastern Europe." The cardinal chooses July 1, and asks his people to receive Holy Communion for that purpose on that day. He gives permission for the Blessed Sacrament to be exposed in all churches and chapels.

Poland / U.K. – July 14, 1951 (KCA)

The British Foreign Office and the Admiralty jointly announce that two oil tankers under construction at Sunderland for Poland have been requisitioned under the Defense Regulations.

Hungary / Poland / U.S. – July 15, 1951 (LBC)

In response to the expulsion of two U.S. diplomats from the U.S. Legation in Budapest, the U.S. calls on Hungary to recall two of its own diplomats. – August 9. The U.S. closes Poland's information center in New York because Poland closed the U.S. information service in Warsaw.

Soviet Union - July 16, 1951 (OSA)

There are unconfirmed reports of a major conspiracy to unseat Stalin. The ringleaders of the plot were rounded up and shot almost a year ago. Nevertheless, the hunt for their followers is said to be going on. The plot is said to have started in Leningrad, where leaflets began to appear in 1948 accusing Stalin of having betrayed Leninism. The plotters were said to have supported Zhdanov against Malenkov in the internal quarrels of the Politburo. After Zhdanov's death, Malenkov suspected that the Leningrad party leaders sympathized with the plotters.

In December 1949 Nikolai Sergevic Popkov, first regional secretary of the Leningrad Party, was arrested and later admitted that he was the head of the conspiracy. Under further torture, he implicated other secretaries involved in the conspiracy. The mentioned people were arrested and executed or committed suicide before the arrest. The police are said to be pursuing the trail of the conspiracy in the lower echelons of the party.

Poland / U.K – July 17, 1951 (KCA)

The Polish Embassy announces that Polish Ambassador Michalowski had protested strongly against the requisitioning of the ships, which had been purchased by Poland, denouncing Britain's act as a "systematic breach of the 1949 British-Polish agreement".

GDR / France / U.K. / U.S. – July 17, 1951 (KCA)

The East German Government protests the decision of the U.S., Britain and France to officially end the state of war with Germany, claiming that the Western Governments' decision was a preparatory measure to rearm Germany within the "aggressive North Atlantic Pact system."

Yugoslavia / U.S. – July 17, 1951 (CUY)

It is agreed at a meeting of the International Security Affairs Committee that it is of great importance to the security of the United States to furnish additional economic aid to Yugoslavia under the authority of Section 408(c) of the Mutual Security Act of 1949.

Yugoslavia / Italy / Trieste – July 18-30, 1951 (NBT)

Talks between Italian and Yugoslav representatives take place in Rome on the settlement of the Trieste problem.

Soviet Union - July 19, 1951 (OSA)

Seemingly, there are 14,000,000 slave workers and 175 camps in the Soviet Union. The disclosure is made by Jensen Eiler, president of the Danish Federation of Labor. He also mentions that forced labor camps were introduced in Bulgaria in 1945. According to Jessen, there are also 46 forced labor camps in Czechoslovakia.

Poland / GDR - July 19, 1951 (OSA)

Since May 1951 there has been a reorganization of the police and the military in order to ensure the cooperation between Polish and East German officers.

GDR - July 20, 1951 (OSA)

The “Dresden Interpretation” of Goethe’s plays is propagandized in East Germany in order to educate the masses. Goethe’s *Faust* and *Götz von Berlichingen* are performed in Dresden. The Communists simplify historical events and falsify the background circumstances. For instance, in *Götz von Berlichingen* the main character is a revolutionary of the middle ages who fought for socialism. Goethe’s poetic language is replaced with backstreet idioms and Communist slang. It is announced in Dresden that because of this the version of this play has been successful. The actors’ group continues performing in the countryside to improve “people’s education.”

Soviet Union - July 21, 1951 (OSA)

An anecdote about an MVD investigating official and an ordinary Soviet citizen.

Czechoslovakia / U.S. – July 23, 1951 (KCA)

The State Department announces that Czechoslovakia has rejected the U.S.’ request to immediately release William Oatis, but adds that it will continue to press for his release.

Soviet Union – July 23, 1951 (KCA)

It is announced that Vice-Admiral N.G. Kuznetsov has been appointed Soviet Minister of the Navy, succeeding Admiral I.S. Yumashev who was relieved of his duties at his own request.

Hungary / U.S. – July 27, 1951 (KCA)

President Truman issues a statement charging the Hungarian Government with “infamous conduct”, declaring that the U.S. Government would “render the Hungarian Government accountable before the world” after Western press reports put the number of deportees from Hungary under inhumane conditions at more than 24,000.

Soviet Union / GDR - July 27, 1951 (OSA)

Since June 1951 more Russian troops are arriving to East Germany from Brest-Litovsk in the USSR. The average transport of troops per night is 2 trains carrying 2000 men each. Seemingly, about 120,000 soldiers have arrived since the end of May to undergo training.

Soviet Union - July 27, 1951 (OSA)

Anti-Soviet propaganda in verse about regards high prices and communism “serfdom.”

Romania – July 27, 1951 (PIR)

The legal framework for the confiscation of goods from deported persons and for arrests during collectivization is established.

Hungary – July 28, 1951, (REV)

About 4,300 C-category (politically unreliable) twenty-year-olds are conscripted into army supply units for labor service. (They serve a longer term of 27 months, until the autumn of 1953.)

Soviet Union / Yugoslavia – July 28, 1951 (KCA)

In a speech made at Knezice in Bosnia, Tito strongly denounces the Soviet Union in response to a violent verbal attack made in Warsaw on July 22 that harshly described the Yugoslav leaders and accused them of transforming Yugoslavia into a weapon of the Western Powers. Tito further declares that Yugoslavia itself had won its freedom by its own effort without the help of the Red Army.

Soviet Union - July 30, 1951 (OSA)

Prices of food (bread, meat, butter, beer, fruit, cucumbers, vodka) and clothing at Oranienbaum (near Leningrad) are reported.

Albania / Bulgaria / Hungary – July 31, 1951 (OSA)

Purportedly, Soviet marshal Vorobiov arrived in Sofia from Odessa on 14 July. He is to inspect Bulgarian, Albanian, and Hungarian road and naval bases, and will allegedly fly to Sasseno, Albania, in late July, to inspect the recently-constructed submarine base there.

Czechoslovakia / U.S. – July 31, 1951 (LBC)

The U.S. cancels the customs preferences granted to Czechoslovakia under the customs agreement of Geneva.

Poland – July 31, 1951 (KCA)

The trial of four Polish Generals and five other officers commences in Warsaw, each defendant being charged with forming a subversive and espionage organization.

Poland – July 31, 1951 (PSN)

Gomulka is secretly arrested.

August 1951**Poland / East Germany - August 1951 (OSA)**

The East German Premier Walter Ulbricht visits Warsaw. He wishes to obtain concessions on reparations and a free port in Poland, but he fails.

Yugoslavia – August 1951 (ACY)

The World Council of Churches sends a delegation of eighteen, headed by Robert

Tobias of Inter-Church Aid, on a mission of fellowship to the churches in Yugoslavia.

Hungary / U.K. – August 1, 1951 (KCA)

The British Government declares that the figure of 24,000 persons deported from Hungary is a conservative estimate, and condemns the callous action of the Hungarian Government.

Soviet Bloc / U.S. – August 1, 1951 (PLC)

The United States stops providing trade allowances to communist countries. The Soviet Union, Albania, Bulgaria, the GDR, Hungary, Poland and Romania are the countries most affected by this decision.

Poland – August 2, 1951 (HDP)

Gomulka is imprisoned for nationalist deviation. He spends three years under house arrest.

Albania / Poland – August 2, 1951 (OSA)

Despite denials, it is alleged that, in April 1951, four Chinese sailors arrived in Gdynia following the departure of a Polish crew to China in November 1950 (and another two weeks later), to retrieve a ship. Poland sends machines, motors, rails, and British goods to China, whilst return ships bring barely any cargo, as do ships from Poland to Albania. However, M/S “Baltyk” brings Russian armaments, Czechoslovak cars, and Polish food to Albania. Finally, it is purported that seamen can buy nothing in Albania save tobacco, that only workers with coupons can buy bread, that there is widespread misery and destitution in Albanian ports, and that there are no uniformed Russians in Albania in March 1950.

Albania / Vatican – August 3, 1951 (KCA)

Tirana radio announces that under a new law approved by the Albanian National Assembly in June, the Roman Catholic Church has been constituted as a juridical body with an exclusively national character, prohibited from maintaining any contact with the Vatican.

GDR / Soviet Union - August 4, 1951 (OSA)

A large new Soviet airfield is under construction at Altengrabow, near Magdenburg. At the same time, the village of Rietschen near Weisswasser, in upper Lausitz, is expected to be evacuated since the Red Army needs the area for training purposes.

Soviet Union / U.S. / Japan – August 6, 1951 (LBC)

A motion by the Supreme Soviet of the USSR to ban atomic weapons is discussed. – August 7. The State Department rejects the proposal of the Supreme Soviet since it contains no new elements and Moscow does not keep its existing agreements.

– August 8. According to Dean Acheson the Soviet proposal is directed at thwarting the Japanese peace treaty.

GDR / Soviet Union - August 6, 1951 (OSA)

Seemingly, at the end of July 1951, Soviet MVD officer Anjekin Vladimir is found murdered in the Brandenburg province. He was notorious in the neighborhood for his cruel handling of investigated German political prisoners. Local people assume the murder is an act of revenge of East-German resistance groups.

Soviet Union / Italy - August 7, 1951 (OSA)

On July 11, 1951, the Soviet ship “Voroshilov” arrived at Venice - Porto Marghera. The ship has 5,035 tons of coal destined for the Milan firms. The crew of 50 men stayed in Venice for two weeks, without any contacts with the locals.

Hungary – August 7, 1951 (KCA)

Szabad Nép, the official organ of the Hungarian Workers Party, states that altogether 4,081 members of the former ruling class had been removed from the country, asserting that these people were all considered a danger to public safety and order.

Yugoslavia / U.S. – August 8, 1951 (KCA)

The successful completion of the \$69 million American food relief program in Yugoslavia in November 1950 is announced.

Hungary – August 10, 1951 (OSA)

Hungarian artists and dancers are forced to be members of the Hungarian Artists’ and Dancers’ Union. They can be admitted to the union according to political reliability and preparation. Dancers can study only in dance academies, which admit only working-class people not older than 21. They receive full benefits. They study Communist ideology, and exclusively folk dances. They also practice a mixture of ancient Hungarian and Asian dances.

Soviet Union – August 11, 1951 (OSA)

The Ganz Railcar Factory receives a pullman for overhauling purposes. Carriages are sent to the USSR to be repaired. When they are sent back from the USSR, all of them are in very bad conditions: seats are missing, windows and machine bullets are broken, there is dirt all around.

Yugoslavia / U.S. – August 13, 1951 (LKT)

Truman informs the Foreign Affairs and Foreign Relations Committees of Congress of his recommendation that \$30 million in economic assistance be extended to Yugoslavia, pending approval of the MSA.

Bulgaria – August 13, 1951 (OSA)

Mass arrests take place in Bulgaria at the end of April 1951. Thousands of people,

from Communists to right-wingers, are imprisoned. However, as of June 1951, no one of them is brought to a forced labor camp and some of them are left free.

Albania – August 13, 1952 (OSA)

An unconfirmed source claims that a successful capitalist in Communist countries must obtain high office (to abuse it and gain security). Despite her poverty, Albania has capitalists, including her “No.1 Capitalist” Pilo Peristeri with a private fortune of 100,000s of US dollars amassed since 1945. Peristeri, an ex-schoolteacher, keeps accounts in capitalist countries and invests in Western industries and companies whilst being a member of the Communist Party. By persecuting his countrymen, he fulfilled Soviet quotas and became a Soviet “favorite.” He led a Soviet smuggling operation in Greece and received a commission from this. Utilizing espionage, Peristeri set up Western bank accounts under pseudonyms – he has not been caught out, yet. He has played off partisans, trade unionists, and Communist governments against each other. Peristeri’s extra-Albanian activities are unconfirmed.

Soviet Bloc / U.K. – August 15, 1951 (LBC)

According to the British Department of Commerce the United Kingdom must continue to trade with Eastern Europe.

Yugoslavia / France / U.K. / U.S. – August 15, 1951 (LBC)

The U.S., United Kingdom and France announce that throughout the end of 1951 they will provide a \$50 million loan for Yugoslavia.

Soviet Union - August 18, 1951 (OSA)

In late July compulsory work for married women was reintroduced in the textile, oil, and food-preserving industries of Azerbaijan, according to refugees from Baku who arrived in Iran at the end of May. About 50,000 women in Azerbaijan have also been mobilized for transport and sanitary services, as well as for guard units.

Soviet Union / Sweden / GDR - August 20, 1951 (OSA)

Russian trawlers seem to lack the knowledge of navigation in Swedish waters, according to a report from a German cook who was working on a Russian boat and jumped into the sea when it was passing the Oresund. According to the cook, a large proportion of crew members are East Germans recruited on Russian boats.

East Germany—August 20, 1951 (OSA)

Russian canteens are supplied with the following items: textiles, shoes, washing soap, toiletries, shaving materials, yarns, shoe polish, buttons, harmonica. The descriptions are in German. The transport is brought through the Kisenbahn and guarded by the police.

East Germany—August 20, 1951 (OSA)

Reports of Russian soldiers and officers who complain to their German counterparts (who they trusted) about the communist regime and government.

GDR / Soviet Union - August 21, 1951 (OSA)

It appears that a new Soviet airbase is built in the woods of Thuringia. The new aerodrome is in Grand, near Lippen. The airfield's cemented runway is expected to be 2,500 meters long.

Soviet Union - August 21, 1951 (OSA)

Seemingly, Soviet authorities are planning to build several strategic railway lines in the Stalingrad district. The lines are to be used for the transportation of Soviet troops from the USSR to the Baltic area.

Soviet Union - August 21, 1951 (OSA)

The agricultural machinery factory "Selmis," in Lwow, sells the equipment produced mainly to state farms. In 1949-1950 "Selmis" achieved only 70% of its production programs due to lack of readymade metal parts, the indifference of workers, and important posts held by political, not professional men. There are multiple complaints and boycotts from the workers. Most of the 100 Party members of the factory are Russians by origin. Most of the workers are Ukrainians and antagonists of the USSR.

Soviet Union - August 21, 1951 (OSA)

The OUN (Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists) aspires to the creation of an independent Ukrainian State. Their anti-Soviet activity started after the war: attacks on the sovkhoses and kolkhoses, spreading anti-Soviet propaganda, resisting agricultural collectivization, acts of sabotage. The most active area was Lwow. When the Ukrainian resistance became too strong, Nikita Khrushchev, the secretary of Central Committee for Ukraine, held a meeting at the Lwow opera-house, where he addressed the issue of dealing with saboteurs of collectivization. Subsequently, armed workers were sent to find the "Banderovtsy," but with little success. In June 1950, the authorities put up a poster in a few Ukrainian cities including Lwow, which states that members of OUN need to surrender; everyone who heeds this offer will be pardoned and employed. Nevertheless, OUN continued its anti-Soviet activities in 1949-1950.

Yugoslavia – August 22, 1951 (KCA)

The Government announces further relaxations in compulsory food deliveries to the State, stating that in 1952 only grain, olive oil, lard and wool will be subject to compulsory purchase, and that in 1953 the compulsory sale of grain and olive oil will likewise be abolished.

East Germany/Iran—October 22, 1951 (OSA)

Advertisements and posts for fuel and petroleum extraction, whose purpose is for specialists and experts from the Soviet Union to Persia. A group of experts have been undertaken with this task in the former plant in Leuna. They first were stationed in Soviet Union or and Romania. This was especially the case for the

German technical specialists, who were not told how long their contracts were or the nature of their tasks.

Soviet Union - August 23, 1951 (OSA)

A school for Soviet marine officers is located north of the Leningrad Baltic Railway station.

Soviet Union - August 23, 1951 (OSA)

Soviet troops are transferred closer to the Caspian Sea.

Soviet Union - August 23, 1951 (OSA)

There are no fortifications along the Oranienbaum-Leningrad coastline. Heavy artillery pieces have left Leningrad for islands near the Finnish Coast.

Soviet Union / Italy / UK / US / FRG - August 23, 1951 (OSA)

There are rumors that ex-Italian vessels are operating in the Soviet Fleet. Many ex-American and ex-British ships operate from Vladivostok, an ex-German cruiser was observed going from Kronstadt to Leningrad in April 1951.

Soviet Union - August 23, 1951 (OSA)

Navy Personnel is paid based on their years in service (from 40 to 900 rubles monthly).

Soviet Union - August 23, 1951 (OSA)

Soviet Marine Police of Baltic Fleet wear the sailor's uniform but with O.K.P.B. on the beret. These units have an autonomous HQ and are equipped with small armed motorboats. They guard the port and patrol the coasts. Other police sections do duty on board the ships - they wear peaked caps and have two stripes (one broad and one narrow) on the left sleeve.

Soviet Union / US / Iran - August 23, 1951 (OSA)

Leningrad Military District has special lectures on international affairs, during which high-ranking officers spread Soviet propaganda about Alaska that should be Russian again, or for instance about Iranian oil that belongs to the USSR.

Soviet Union - August 23, 1951 (OSA)

The goal of a kolkhoz is not to improve the living conditions of its workers, but to deliver the state the fixed quotas of agricultural produce. In the village of Rublovka near Poltava, there is a kolkhoz of 1,500 members, Chervona Zirka (Red Star). From 1945 to 1950 its workers did not receive any bread or maize for their work. In order to earn extra money, members of the kolkhoz used to make wooden spoons and other utensils in their free time.

Soviet Union - August 24, 1951 (OSA)

An aircraft landing is located at about 7 kilometers on the right of the railway track of Orenburg, south of the Ural Mountains, on the Ural River.

Soviet Union / Japan - August 24, 1951 (OSA)

There are rumors about an important supply and troop concentration base at lake Hassan on the former Russo-Japanese border. Emergency troops are gathering there.

Soviet Union - August 24, 1951 (OSA)

A new airfield was completed at Krasnoe Selo in 1950. A cement runway is in the center of the landing field. Large numbers of jet fighters are observed there. The airfield is located on the Leningrad road, 5 kilometers from Krasnoe Selo (formerly Tsarskoe Selo, famous as Pushkin's school place).

Soviet Union - August 24, 1951 (OSA)

Coastal Defence of the Baltic Red Fleet wear sailor's uniforms, but the abbreviation K.B.F. is written on the chest. The C.O. of a regiment is always a "polkovnik" (colonel). Each regiment is composed of three battalions. Each battalion, consisting of 1,200 men, is commanded by a "starshi" Lieutenant (Lt. Maj.), a captain or a major. Each man is armed with a rifle, each platoon is armed with machine guns. The fourth platoon receives many small pieces, which have a short barrel, and are fixed on a two-wheel cart. These Defense Troops are located at Kronstadt.

Soviet Union / Italy / US - August 24, 1951 (OSA)

Two Soviet diplomats in Italy - Vasili Kamenski and Anatolii Zakharevich are recalled to the Soviet Union and arrested. The reason why Soviet diplomats cannot escape from their embassies and find political sanctuary in the countries of their residence is that their families are held in the USSR as hostages. A Soviet diplomat cannot escape, as he knows his family will be arrested. Earlier, after the war, Soviet diplomats were allowed to take their children along. But one Soviet governess, Kosenkina, jumped out of a window in New York, unwilling to return to the USSR and trying to escape from the Soviet Consulate. Then, all schools attached to embassies for the diplomats' children were closed, and since 1948 Soviet diplomats have to leave their children in the Soviet Union.

Soviet Union - August 25, 1951 (OSA)

Discontent is reported in the Red Army troops regarding small food rations. The Russian soldier's pay is also low - 16 rubles a month. These conditions that led many soldiers to near starvation are the cause of many thefts and crimes by Soviet soldiers. Thus, 63 soldiers from the 23rd Regiment are convicted for theft to sentences of 10-15 years.

Romania / Soviet Union – August 24, 1951 (PIR)

A Romanian – Soviet accord regarding the exchange of goods and technical aid is signed in Moscow.

Soviet Bloc / Yugoslavia – August 24, 1951 (KCA)

The Yugoslav Government sends a note to the Danube Commission stating that in view of the action of the Committee, it will draw up its own rules for navigation on the Danube which, while keeping with the Danube Convention, will also include all those provisions proposed by Yugoslavia and rejected by the majority of the session.

Yugoslavia / U.K. – August 25, 1951 (PVC)

Tito receives Ernest Davies, Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs. During their meeting, the two politicians review the international situation and the main aims of Soviet foreign policy.

Poland - August 25, 1951 (OSA)

The Central Office for the Control of the Press, Publications, and Public Entertainments publishes a revised list of newspapers forbidden on Polish territories. It includes Polish, Ukrainian, Slovak, Lithuanian, Jewish, German, and Russian newspapers published in western countries.

Czechoslovakia – August 26, 1951 (KCA)

At the end of a 23-day trial, five German war criminals are sentenced to death after being found guilty of various atrocities committed during the German occupation of Czechoslovakia.

Hungary – August 26, 1951 (HC)

Decree 158/1951 by the Council of Ministers announces that manual workers and underage people will be given more bread in the food stamp program. In addition, bread can be freely traded.

Soviet Union - August 27, 1951 (OSA)

Average monthly salaries in the USSR seemingly vary from 300 (unskilled worker) to 2,000 rubles (director of a factory) among factory workers, depending on occupation. In the military, they range from 18 (soldier) to 4,000 rubles (a colonel in MGB). The prices of food and goods toward the end of 1950 are the following: 2-7 rubles for 1 kilo of bread, 1-2 rubles for 1 kilo of potatoes, 10-20 rubles for 1 kilo of flour, 11 rubles for 1 kilo of sugar, 50 rubles for 1 liter of vodka, 800-1,000 rubles for 1 suit of inferior quality.

GDR / Poland - August 28, 1951 (OSA)

According to a new decree of the East-German government, Soviet zone streets may be renamed after “progressive” figures in international politics with previous

government permission. The decree instructs all municipal authorities to appoint special committees to check whether there are “outdated” street names.

GDR - August 28, 1951 (OSA)

Seemingly, 7 cases of typhus and typhoid fever are reported among the youth in Dresden since the return of the first “shift” from the East-Berlin Youth Festival on August 10, 1951. Two more cases have been among the family members of those returning from Berlin. There are also reported cases of food poisoning among FDJ members returning from the Festival.

GDR / Soviet Union - August 28, 1951 (OSA)

It appears that the Ministry of Reconstruction is arranging open discussions under the slogan “Our future way of living” in all major cities of the Soviet Zone. Local housing offices, municipal authorities, public engineers, representatives of trade unions, etc. are participating in these discussions, but not the broader population. According to a participant of one of the meetings, the main topic is the new apartment model for workers’ quarters to be erected throughout the Soviet Zone. The new model has an increased living space, reduced size of standard furniture, and a reduced area needed for housewives to cover daily household chores. The practical problem is that none of these apartments of even an earlier 1949 model has been built.

Yugoslavia / France / U.K. / U.S. – August 28, 1951 (KCA)

Washington and Belgrade announce that as a result of the Anglo-U.S.-French discussions on economic aid to Yugoslavia, the three governments have agreed to provide Yugoslavia with \$50 million over the next six months.

Hungary – August 28, 1951 (OSA)

A Hungarian husband and wife report how they escaped from Hungary in July 1951. The woman had a good job at an important company. He asked for a permit to spend her holidays in Sopron, close to the Austrian border, because of health reasons. She got the permit and went to Sopron by train. The ÁVH thoroughly checked the train and the town. The couple tried three times to trespass the border, and succeeded only the third time, sneaking through the barbed-wire barrier.

GDR / Soviet Union - August 30, 1951 (OSA)

It appears that numerous SED newspapermen get permission to carry pistols. They are instructed to use pistols not only for protection purposes, but also when it is necessary to prevent offenses and crimes against the Soviet Army, the government, or the Party. They are also instructed to use the weapon when spotting somebody fixing anti-Communist posters or distributing such leaflets.

GDR / Soviet Union / Poland - August 31, 1951 (OSA)

A catastrophic shortage of meat taking place in Poland for several weeks causes panic among the population. The official propaganda shifts the blame to

speculators inspired by the “enemies of people.” A special decree of the Cabinet issued on August 22, 1951, promises special premiums to peasants for delivering cattle and hogs to the state and warns of serious penalties to “speculators” for illegal slaughtering and selling of cattle, which could result in one-two years of forced labor. The shortage of meat is caused by large exports to Soviet Russia and East Germany and by laying down large stocks of meat for Rokossovski’s Army.

Hungary – August 31, 1951 (HC)

Statutory rule 1951:26 by the Presidential Council announces that a new system of academic qualifications will be established.

Yugoslavia – August 31, 1951 (PVC)

According to charges in the local press, pilgrims cut out the red star from the Yugoslav flag during a procession at Ptuj, Slovenia. As a result, the Bishop of Ljubljana is brutally beaten, and the authorities turn the trial of the perpetrators into an anti-clerical mockery.

September 1951

Hungary – September 1951 (OSA)

In the territory of Soviet satellite states ship traffic in the river, the Danube is tightly controlled. For example, any ship crossing the Hungarian borders on the river Danube is tightly checked by border guards. However, the check is tighter for incoming than for outgoing boats. Checks seem less strict on the Czechoslovak side of the border. Otherwise, AVH officers check everyone and everything tightly. The documents of the crew are checked one by one, all movable things are moved.

Albania / Yugoslavia – September 2, 1951 (PVC)

According to Yugoslav charges, 9 Albanian soldiers enter 200 meters into Yugoslav territory at Zhur, close to Prizren, and open fire at the Yugoslav border guards. Later 60 other Albanian soldiers join the group. The combat lasts for about an hour and one of the soldiers is killed.

Soviet Union / France – September 3, 1951 (KCA)

France and the Soviet Union sign an agreement regulating commercial relations between the two countries and the status of the Soviet trade mission in France, replacing the five year agreement concluded by both countries in 1945. The agreement is subject to ratification by the French Parliament.

GDR / Soviet Union / US - September 3, 1951 (OSA)

There is a switch in the Communist propaganda line regarding jazz music. Before it was banned and claimed “tasteless,” “reactionary,” and “capitalist.” After the recent change, jazz is been presented as “Negro folk music.” This presentation is done in line with the increasing anti-American propaganda campaign, in which the Communists are trying to present themselves as the champions of all racial

persecutees, suppressed colonial people, and especially the “Negro slaves” in the USA. According to this new “line,” jazz becomes a cultural Communist fad and is being popularized.

Romania / Yugoslavia – September 5, 1951 (PVC)

The Romanian press publishes another note of protest from the Romanian Government. According to Romanian charges, Yugoslav border guards dressed as civilians crossed the border at the village of Cusici and killed a Romanian citizen.

Hungary / Soviet Union – September 6, 1951 (OSA)

Soviet and Hungarian authorities try to convince Hungarian citizens that the USSR is innocent of expulsions and deportations from Hungary.

Poland / Greece / Bulgaria - September 6, 1951 (OSA)

According to rumors in Athens, the most prominent anti-Communist leaders in prison throughout the satellite countries are concentrated in labor camps and prisons in Poland. The information is unconfirmed, but there are indications of the transfer of prominent prisoners from Bulgaria to unknown locations.

Czechoslovakia – September 7, 1951 (KCA)

An official announcement from Prague states numerous changes agreed upon for the reorganization of the Communist Party.

Poland - September 8, 1951 (OSA)

The Polish Government in exile declares through a note sent to the chairman of the San Francisco Peace Conference that the Communist Government in Poland and its delegate declarations do not represent the Polish nation.

Czechoslovakia – September 9, 1951 (KCA)

A further official statement is made announcing a major reshuffling of the Czechoslovak Cabinet and the creation of nine new ministries.

Hungary – September 9, 1951 (HC)

Statutory rule 1951:25 by the Presidential Council announces that the University of Chemical Industry will be founded in Veszprém.

Romania / Vatican – September 9, 1951 (PIR)

The case trial against the Vatican Nuncio – involving the Nuncio Patrick O’Hara, archbishop of Savannah – takes place; his situation in the ecclesiastical hierarchy prevented his condemnation and incarceration, hence he was added to the list of expelled. He invested 2 bishops before leaving the country: Ioan Ploscariu from Lugoj and Ioan Dragomir from Baia Mare.

GDR / U.K. – September 10, 1951 (KCA)

British officials in East Germany publish a report on the development of the East

German Paramilitary “People’s Police” during the last 12 months, emphasizing the present high number of officers, suggesting that existing forces are capable of rapid expansion, and declaring that the *Bereitschaften* are “clearly being trained as potential operational units instead of simply as police forces to maintain internal security.”

Soviet Union - September 11, 1951 (OSA)

The merger of approximately 3,000 smaller kolkhozes into 1,055 large kolkhozes has been practically completed in Estonia. Altogether, 98% of Estonia’s arable land is collectivized. Agricultural machinery is located in 61 state-owned tractor stations and is hired out to the kolkhozes. In January 1951, the government adopted a five-year plan for the development of Estonian agriculture, which aims at restoring the conditions before the war. Another important aim of the plan is to increase the arable area by 24% (according to experts in agriculture, the arable area in Estonia covers about 831,000 hectares). The area for wheat, flax, and sugar beets is to be extended. According to the plan, the livestock is to be increased by 90 percent, hogs by 120 percent, sheep by 73 percent. Production of dairies must increase by 250 percent; sales of eggs must increase 50 times.

Soviet Union / Sweden / Denmark - September 11, 1951 (OSA)

The Soviets insist on a 12 nautical miles’ territorial limit in the Baltic, which impedes the Swedish and the Danish fishing in those waters. The two Nordic countries, not agreeing on the Soviet right to these territorial waters, submit a number of demarches in Moscow. Their later request is seemingly refused by the Soviets. Even outside the 12 miles’ limit Soviet coastal guards capture Swedish and Danish fishers and detain them from cross-examination. Moscow defends the 12 miles limit regarding the law of June 15, 1927 concerning the protection of the boundaries of the Soviet Union. No legislation exists about territorial waters. This is used by the Soviets to refuse to bring the matter before the International Court of Justice.

Romania – September 10-14, 1951 (KCA)

Ten Roman Catholic priests and laymen are tried before a military court in Bucharest on charges of espionage and anti-State activities. All of the defendants are said to have confessed.

Soviet Union / Romania / Bulgaria / Albania - September 13, 1951 (OSA)

Around August 20, 1951, the reorganization of the navies of Romania, Bulgaria, and Albania is completed under Soviet control. Soviet authorities supplied these countries with modern equipment, including rockets and anti-aircraft guns. The naval units attached to the Bulgarian and Romanian navies will be under the command of Soviet Admiral naval headquarters. By October 1951, all Bulgarian and Romanian naval units will have Soviet officers and instructors on board for training on radar protection and anti-aircraft defense.

Poland - September 15, 1951 (OSA)

The Prince Archbishop of Krakow Baziak H. E. Eugenio is elected Capitular Vicar by the Chapter of the archdiocese of Krakow.

Yugoslavia / Italy – September 10, 1951 (PVC)

Tito delivers a speech on Yugoslav Navy Day. He congratulates on the rebuilding of the Yugoslav Navy but speaks disapprovingly about the Italian journalists who respond with arrogance to Yugoslav good-will.

Yugoslavia / Hungary – September 11, 1951 (PVC)

Yugoslavia protests the 52 border incidents in its latest note to Hungary.

Yugoslavia / U.K. – September 11, 1951 (PVC)

Vice Chief of Naval Staff of the Admiralty John Edelsten takes a three-day visit to Split on board the *Liverpool*. During his trip, he even meets Tito. No such visit has taken place since the end of World War II.

Czechoslovakia / FRG – September 13, 1951 (KCA)

It is announced in Bonn that following discussions between the three Western Powers and the German Federal Government, the Allied Control Commission has informed the Czechoslovak Military Mission in Berlin that all Czechoslovak flight privileges in Western Germany are suspended until further notice.

Poland – September 13, 1951 (KCA)

The German battleship *Gneisenau* is raised by a Polish salvage crew. Its scrap, amounting to 20,000 tons of high quality steel, will be used for agricultural machinery, railway equipment, housing, and factory construction.

Soviet Union / U.K. – September 13, 1951 (KCA)

The United Kingdom and the Soviet Union sign an agreement under which the Soviet Union will supply 1 million tons of grain to the United Kingdom. The British defend their need to trade with the Soviet Union and other Eastern European countries after being criticized for signing the agreement with the Soviet Union.

Poland – September 14, 1951 (PSN)

The Warsaw Regional Military Court announces death sentences for Stanislaw Derkus, Henryk Gosik and Wladyslaw Kwiatkowski.

Hungary / Yugoslavia – September 14, 1951 (PVC)

The Hungarian Government sends a note to Yugoslavia, protesting the latest border incident at Katymár.

Hungary – September 15, 1951 (HC)

Decree 170/1951 by the Council of Ministers announces that a Religion Fund will

be established in order to pay for the personal expenses of the employees of the church.

Czechoslovakia – September 16, 1951 (KCA)

The Czechoslovak Military Mission protests to the Allied High Commission's September 13 decision.

Czechoslovakia / Belgium /France – September 17, 1951 (KCA)

It is announced that Czechoslovakian Airlines has suspended its services between Paris and Brussels.

Romania – September 17, 1951 (KCA)

In the trial of Catholic priests four defendants receive the sentence of hard labor for life, one receives a sentence of 18 years' solitary confinement, while the others receive 10-15 years' imprisonment.

GDR / Soviet Union / Poland - September 17, 1951 (OSA)

The meeting between Bierut and Pieck seems to signify that Germany could become a member state in the Soviet Union. Beirut, seemingly, may have visited Berlin to help prepare the final coup in Eastern Germany. Possible preparation of East Germany's and Poland's incorporation in the Soviet Union would result in resolving the tensions between Poland and East Germany. Furthermore, Russia's recruiting drive for skilled labor would make a settlement between Poland and Germany, which is imperative because new recruits from both countries would be working for the Soviet economy.

Soviet Union - September 17, 1951 (OSA)

Supervised by Russian teachers, political Estonian educators go to work in the fall of 1951 with newly revised textbooks in a number of boarding schools, where the Communist Party expects the renewed education of a new generation of Bolsheviks. Old teachers and textbooks are eliminated and replaced. In order to make political indoctrination concentrated, 33 new boarding schools are opened, and the existing ones are refurnished with 900 more beds. Pupils and parents are mobilized to help with the building. Pupils belonging to the Komsomol are given authority to supervise their comrades and educators. They need to control that the subjects of special importance for the Communists are understood by children and that teachers adhere to the Party line. They also have to organize special political lectures at which propaganda films are shown.

Soviet Union - September 17, 1951 (OSA)

600 miners from the oil-state district are ordered to help the kolkhoz farmers to bring in the harvest in Mustvee, Kallaste, Jogeva, and Väike-Maarja districts. In addition to the miners, 200 construction workers are ordered for an indefinite period to Kallaste. Since mining in the oil-state districts is a crucial area for the Soviets, the situation in the country must be extremely critical.

Romania – September 18, 1951 (PIR)

A resolution of the CC of PMR criticizes the errors in the politics of the socialist transformation of agriculture and stipulates the renunciation of the total collectivization, replacing it with a new form of association: agricultural comradesly associations (întovărășirile agricole). The resolution calls for the strengthening of political work inside the GAC and assimilation of the Soviet model.

Romania / Vatican – September 18, 1951 (KCA)

The Vatican denies the allegations against all of the defendants in the trial of Catholic priests, excommunicating all those in Romania who had in any way persecuted servants of the Roman Catholic Church.

Soviet Union - September 19, 1951 (OSA)

The professors from the University of Tartu are subjected to compulsory political education, since they lack knowledge of the basic Communist theories. A special evening school for studies of Marxism-Leninism is founded. Some 44 professors already graduated, while 120 are still attending the courses. The university is regularly checked by political specialists. Besides the evening school, professors' study Marxist-Leninist theories and devote themselves to dialectics and historical materialism. The younger generation of assistants and teachers also study political questions.

Soviet Union - September 19, 1951 (OSA)

Seemingly, an average kolkhoz peasant makes about 5 rubles per labor day in cash. His yearly income is about 1,500 rubles plus 2-3 kilos of grain, 3-4 kilos of potatoes, and 4.5 kilos of straw per labor day. He has to pay a 6% income tax (90 rubles), and 7% must be given to various cultural funds. He is also obliged to subscribe to state loan bonds for at least 500 rubles. All he has left after these deductions is 815 rubles. Meanwhile, the party members get a salary of 3,000 or more rubles a month.

Yugoslavia / U.S. – September 21, 1951 (HWC)

The Supreme Allied Commander in Europe (SACEUR) approves the U.S. Joint Intelligence Committee's earlier recommendation (May 1951) and recommends an agreement with Belgrade that Yugoslavia defend the Ljubljana Gap and block access to the Villach area through the Sava River.

Poland / East Germany - September 21, 1951 (OSA)

The Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Trade of the German Democratic Republic visits Poland. The visit concerns the difficulties which have arisen in the economic relation between Poland and East Germany.

Soviet Union - September 21, 1951 (OSA)

Seemingly, Russian and Estonian children are not allowed to go to school together but are to be strictly separated. Thus, Russian children attend classes between 8 am

and 2 pm, and the Estonians from 2 pm to 8 pm. The next week the order is reversed.

Soviet Union - September 21, 1951 (OSA)

The Russians conduct experiments with a model of the so-called “Stalin-organ” on the islands of Ösel and Dagö. The new organ is said to have an action range of 50 km. The Estonian coast is mainly closed to civilians, Russian troops are to be stationed on the islands of Waissaar and Ormusaar. Russian naval headquarters are in Tallinn, where a luxurious district, Kadriorg, is turned into a Russian military town.

Soviet Union - September 21, 1951 (OSA)

According to the industrial plan for 1951, the industrial capacity of Karelo-Finnish SSR has to increase by 30.1%, compared to 1950. However, the plan is unlikely to be fulfilled. The main two industries in Karel-Finnish SSR are timber, pulp, and fishing. The industries are equipped with modern machinery, but the workers lack knowledge of the machines. In the first months of 1951, the available tractors were used only to 54% of their capacity, trucks - to 51 percent, railway engines - to 44 percent. Another reason for underperformance in the industries is embezzlement and fraud in the ministry. There is also a shortage of housing in the capital Petrozavodsk, and significant transport issues.

Soviet Union / Vatican - September 21, 1951 (OSA)

News reaches the Vatican regarding smaller quantities of cultivated land and cattle than planned by the Soviet government.

Soviet Bloc / U.S. – September 24, 1951 (LBC)

The U.S. cancels the provisions of the Kem amendment for the NATO member states. (According to the Kem amendment, U.S. aid cannot be granted to states that fail to observe the export ban to the Soviet zone of products on the U.S. positive list). – *October 11*. According to new legislation passed in the House of Representatives, U.S. military and economic aid cannot be granted to countries that ship strategic materials to the Soviet bloc without US approval.

Yugoslavia – September 25, 1951 (KCA)

In a speech in Serbia, Tito expresses confidence at Yugoslavia’s ability to defend its territory against any Cominform attack, provided it receives sufficient arms and supplies from Western countries.

Bulgaria – September 25, 1951 (OSA)

The average wage of a worker in Bulgaria reaches 7,000 Leva per month. Even though the cost of living in Bulgaria is approximately the same of Italy, Bulgarians earn 1/5 of Italian workers’ wages. Generally, Bulgarians living in towns can afford mainly bread, garlic, and onions.

Hungary – September 27, 1951 (HC)

The Government calls for a second peace loan program.

Soviet Union - September 28, 1951 (OSA)

A list of people working in the Council of Ministers of Soviet Latvia as of March 30, 1951.

Soviet Union - September 28, 1951 (OSA)

Seemingly, in Madona, there is a great shortage of milk, stationery, and envelopes. In Riga, there is a shortage of nails, bricks, tiles, chalk, lime, plaster, camera film, printing paper, spare parts for bicycles and motorcycles.

Soviet Union - September 28, 1951 (OSA)

In the Latvian Communist Party school, more than 150 pupils learn Russian, Russian geography, and Russian literature. The students are mostly young Communists and Party functionaries.

Soviet Union - September 28, 1951 (OSA)

In Latvia, some 14,000 Komsomol youths and 11,000 Party members are sent off to the country to help with the harvest.

Soviet Union - September 28, 1951 (OSA)

From the autumn of 1951, Marxist theories are to be applied in Latvian schools. Latvian teachers have been trained at various schools in order to improve their political knowledge. The minister of education complains that there are still about 3,500 more teachers who lack Marxist training.

Soviet Union - September 28, 1951 (OSA)

A list of people from the Latvian Communist Party.

Soviet Union - September 28, 1951 (OSA)

Short biographies of secretaries of the Central Committee of the Latvian Communist Party: Jānis Kalnbērziņš, Titov Fiodor Jegors, Pelse Arvids Janis, Krumin Vilis Karls.

Soviet Union / US / UK - September 28, 1951 (OSA)

Sakse-Abzalone Anna, Latvia's representative in the Soviet Supreme Council, declares herself partyless, but really is a Communist, who could denounce members of her family. She belongs to the Russian peace committee and was delegated to most "peace" conferences. During her public speeches, she often insults the US and the UK. Anna is frequently employed as a lecturer abroad.

Soviet Union / GDR - September 28, 1951 (OSA)

During recent large-scale maneuvers of the Soviet Navy in the Baltic, three Soviet

destroyers and two torpedo boats are heavily damaged. The damaged units are towed by tugs to the East German port of Rostock.

Soviet Union / Bulgaria / GDR / Israel / Egypt / Iran / Syria / US - September 29, 1951 (OSA)

Reportedly, on September 7, 1951 a secret economic conference is held in Sofia, which is attended by the Ministers of Foreign Trade of all Cominform countries, including GDR. The main item on the agenda is the promotion of increased trade relations with the Middle East - Israel, Egypt, Iran, Syria, at prices below those on the world market, in order to beat the Western competition. The main items to be exported by the Cominform Bloc are oil products, corn, metal goods, machinery, household utensils, etc. The financial losses suffered by this export dumping policy will be covered from a joint fund to be set up by the Satellite Countries for this purpose. Notably, Turkey is not included in these Soviet-Cominform plans, probably because there are no adequate trade facilities between this country and the Eastern Bloc.

Hungary – September 29, 1951 (HC)

On the anniversary of the Pákozd battle (September 29, 1848) the monument of the 1948 patriots is unveiled.

Yugoslavia / Trieste – September 29, 1951 (KCA)

The Yugoslav Foreign Minister addresses the National Assembly, indicating that the Yugoslav Government is willing to abandon its claims for the incorporation of the free territory into Yugoslavia, but is not willing to accept the tripartite declaration and is hence seeking a third solution to the Trieste question.

Hungary – September 30, 1951 (HC)

Decree 254510/1951 by the Minister of Nutrition regulates the trade and transportation of potatoes. Potatoes can be freely traded once the state requirements are collected.

October 1951

Bulgaria – October 1951 (OSA) The administration and the repertoire of the Burgas theater (Bulgaria) change. The former director, Haealambov, is replaced and becomes the director of the “Theater Youth” in Sofia, which is considered to be a Bolshevik propaganda instrument. Only Russian plays are permitted, while Bulgarian classics and national songs are banned.

Poland / Soviet Union - October 1951 (OSA)

The Soviet government allegedly persuades the Warsaw government to cover expenses for the exploitation of uranium in Silesia. All mines are put under close Soviet supervision.

Yugoslavia / Ethiopia – October 1951 (RYN)

Joža Vilfan heads the first goodwill mission to Ethiopia. Soon afterwards, the Minister of Industry and the Chief of the General Staff visit Ethiopia.

Yugoslavia / U.S. – October 1951 (LUY)

The United States Chief of Staff, General J. Lawton Collins, arrives in Belgrade to observe for himself the military situation in Yugoslavia.

Hungary - October 3, 1951 (OSA)

Rails manufactured for the Soviet Union are allegedly used as narrow-gauge industrial rails in Hungary. These rails also called “Goliath rails,” are 50 kg heavy, while on average, 35 kg rails would be enough. Therefore, Goliath rails are an unnecessary burden on the Hungarian economy. This waste of money may be caused by the fact that Soviet experts often reject rails with even small defects. Therefore, these rails rejected by the USSR are left to Hungary.

Poland / Greece - October 3, 1951 (OSA) Allegedly, over 10 000 Greek Communist partisans are secretly transferred to Poland, where they are granted “political asylum” and direct assistance from the Polish government.

Soviet Union / U.S. – October 3, 1951 (KCA)

President Truman states that a second atomic bomb has exploded in the Soviet Union.

Soviet Union – October 6, 1951 (KCA)

In an interview with *Pravda*, Stalin confirms that an atomic bomb test had taken place recently in the Soviet Union and adds that atomic bombs of various calibers will continue to be tested.

Hungary / US / FRG – October 6, 1951 (REV)

The Hungarian Language Program of *Radio Free Europe*, headed by Gyula Dessewffy, begins its broadcasts from Munich.

Soviet Union / U.K. – October 7, 1951 (KCA)

The London office of the TASS Agency announces that the Soviet monitoring station at Barnet has been closed down by the British Government without explanation.

Hungary – October 7, 1951 (HC)

The Hungarian Democratic Youth Association publishes the first issue of its periodical, *Új Március* (New March).

Soviet Union / U.K. – October 7, 1951 (KCA)

A spokesperson of the British Foreign Office states that the British Government sent a note to the Soviet Government requesting the closing down of the Soviet

monitoring station, given that a similar prolongation of wartime facilities has not been afforded to the British on Soviet territory.

Poland – October 8, 1951 (PSN)

The Warsaw Regional Military Court sentences five activists of The Polish Peasant Party who were allegedly spies and agents engaged in subversive activities and close collaborators of Mikolajczyk.

Poland – October 9, 1951 (PSN)

A trial of eleven persons including father Andrzej Bronislaw Szepelak, the provincial of the Bernardine order and three other monks opens before the Lublin Regional Military Committee.

Yugoslavia / U.S. – October 11, 1951 (HWC/LUY)

The Executive Board of the IBRD decides to approve a loan to Yugoslavia of \$28 million. The decision is publicly announced on October 17, 1951.

Albania / Yugoslavia – October 9, 1951 (OSA)

A refugee from Montenegro in Italy reports that two Yugoslav officers and 35 soldiers escaped to Albania on September 3. They are said to be “Cominformists,” and prefer Albanian labor camps to fight for Tito’s terror regime, which they oppose.

Albania – October 10, 1951 (OSA)

A fairly reliable source in Albania speaks of the use of Soviet films in mass education. *The Audacious*, *The Kuban’ Cossacks*, and *The Defeat of Berlin* are frequently shown, alongside four recent pictures. 120 documentary films are played monthly in Albania.

Poland - October 12, 1951 (OSA)

The Ministry of Public Security is probably organizing special “partisan units” aimed to trick people into giving their real opinions about underground movements and then arrest them if they show sympathy.

Poland / West Germany - October 12, 1951 (OSA)

Negotiations between the Polish Government and the West-German Company Bertling are successfully completed. The Bertling firm takes over the representation of Polish shipping in West Germany. This new agency located in Hamburg secretly aims to carry out illicit import business in strategic raw materials from the West to the East.

Albania – October 12, 1951 (OSA)

A Swedish journalist who visited Albania in September observes that the USSR is trying to make Albania a “model Mohammedan-Communist state” to influence the

Muslim world and the Middle East. Catholics are attacked, Orthodox ignored, Muslims supported. A 1942 Italian survey found Albania's population 10% Catholic, 20% Orthodox, and 70% Muslim. However, Catholics' loyalty to the Vatican, not their minority, is the major reason for their persecution, save the few who have joined the "National Catholic Church." The Orthodox Church is untouched due to its independence from Constantinople (declared in 1923, reconfirmed in 1937) and government members' "Orthodox background." Hoxha, a Muslim, fits well into the Soviet scheme. But the scheme is superstitious, not logical, utilizing Roufai dervishes' tortuous practices. The Bektashi Order, 100,000 strong, is openly tolerated and used as a vehicle for USSR propaganda to the Muslim world, whilst its property is intact. The USSR is trying to use a new Tirana radio station to propagandize the tolerance of Bekashis.

Soviet Union / Norway – October 15, 1951 (KCA)

In a note to the Norwegian Government, Moscow accuses Norway of taking part in "large scale measures tending to implement the aims of the Atlantic alliance".

Soviet Union / U.S. / Korea – October 17, 1951 (KCA)

The U.S. State Department releases the text of a statement made by the American Ambassador in Moscow that emphasized the necessity of improving U.S.-Soviet relations and asked the Soviet Union to use its good offices with the Chinese and North Koreans to bring about a successful conclusion to the Korean armistice discussions. It also releases Vyshinsky's reply, which, after making several accusations and negative statements against the U.S. involvement in Korea, ultimately agrees to "strive to establish co-operation with all countries ready to co-operate with the Soviet Union", agreeing to "examine with the participation of the U.S. Government all important and unsettled questions."

Yugoslavia / U.K. – October 18, 1951 (PVC)

A farewell dinner is organized to honor the British Ambassador Charles Peake who leaves Belgrade for Athens. The most important members of the Yugoslav leadership attend the reception.

Hungary – October 18, 1951 (OSA)

Reportedly, citizens of Western countries living in Hungary are not allowed out of the country, even though they have a valid passport. Diplomats of Western countries protest in vain, because Hungarian authorities reply that the people in question are Hungarian citizens, and therefore subjects to Hungarian law. Thus, these people have no other choice but to try to sneak out illegally. This is even harder than for Hungarian refugees because foreigners are under tight control.

Poland – October 22, 1951 (PSN)

A decree is passed declaring identity cards to be the only documents every Polish citizen was obliged to have. Soldiers and those going abroad have to deposit their cards with the proper authorities.

Hungary – October 23, 1951 (OSA)

Ernő Gerő is reported to oppose Jewish mass emigration from Hungary to Palestine. He allegedly told representatives of international Jewish organizations that, shall Hungary allow Jewish mass emigration, this may give the impression of Jews being especially favored (many Hungarian key Communist Party members were Jews). In case organizations overcome Gerő's opposition in 1952, they would like to have 1,000-1,200 Jews emigrating weekly.

East Germany/China—October 24, 1951 (OSA)

Reports are of at least a million Chinese workers across the Soviet Bloc, sent by the Peoples Republic of China to Eastern Europe to help with the chronic labour shortages as well as to provide the PRC with a foundation of influence in Europe. Since 1937 there were 110,000 Chinese workers who emigrated to the USSR, although a third of these were transferred to the desert of Kazakhstan and then to China for political reasons and the numbers were reduced to 300,000. Partly due to Trotsky the number of labourers grew to a million. The breakdown in numbers of deported Chinese labourers may be broken down to 300,000 in the USSR, 200,000 in Poland, 200,000 in the OSR, 100,000 in Hungary and 200,000 in Romania. There are also a large number working in the mining works in Silesia and in Textile factories. These workers are housed and kept isolated.

Albania – October 26, 1951 (OSA)

It is purported that the attempted imposition of Marxism on the Albanian people has created a tragedy. Albania's unique identity and resultant individualism result in frequent revolts against Marxist doctrine. The Kremlin is becoming less interventionist, and Albanian leaders go for instruction to Moscow rather than Soviets to Tirana. President Hoxha visited Moscow from October 1950 to August 1951. Mehmet Shehu describes Albania as a "pillar of support" for Socialism behind imperialist lines, facing "Titoist" Yugoslavia and "Fascist-Monarchist" Greece.

Hungary – October 31, 1951 (HC)

The literary critics department of the Hungarian Writers' Union discusses the activity of the periodical *Csillag* (Star).

Hungary – October 31, 1951 (OSA)

State secretary Gyula Fodor is rumored to have visited Vienna in the summer of 1951, together with a driver-interpreter. Fodor used to be a construction worker. According to rumors, Fodor does not eat at an official banquet because he is afraid of using cutlery improperly but gives technical advice to an Austrian construction worker.

Yugoslavia / Austria / FRG / Vatican – October 31, 1951 (PVC)

Tito's press interview covering such subjects as Austria (Carinthia), the Vatican

and German re-armament is published. He considers the Atlantic Pact a logical consequence of the aggressive Soviet foreign policy and assures the West that they can count on Yugoslav help in case of aggression. However, he excludes the possibility of a Greek-Turkish-Yugoslav regional pact.

November 1951

Poland / Czechoslovakia - November 1951 (OSA)

Poland and Czechoslovakia are reported to be continuously shipping arms, ammunition, and war supplies to the Far East from Gdynia, Gdansk, and Szczecin.

Poland - November 1951 (OSA)

It is reported that the popularity of Pope Pius XII in Poland is at its highest, thanks to his attacks on Communist propaganda. The 1949 verdict condemning Communism and collaboration with Communists also contributed to strengthening his influence on the Polish.

Poland - November 1951 (OSA)

Reportedly, exports of provincial newspapers from Poland to foreign countries are restricted by the Control Office. Only newspapers published in Warsaw may be sent abroad.

Hungary – November 1951 (HC)

The movie *Gyarmat a föld alatt* (Colony under the ground) directed by Imre Jeney is first shown.

Soviet Union – November 1951 (KRI)

The Mingrelian Affair, a made up conspiracy about nationalist tendencies in the Mingrelian ethnic group in Georgia, which leads to mass repression, begins.

Romania – November 1951 (PIR)

Mircea Cancicov, former Minister of Finance (1936-1937, 1938), dies in Aiud penitentiary.

Hungary – November 1, 1951 (REV)

The mode of address between soldiers of the People's Army is altered to 'comrade' (elvtárs). The size of the military now exceeds 115,000 men.

Hungary / Soviet Union – November 2, 1951 (HC)

The Council of Ministers approves the suggestion to rename Dunapentele and its newly built ironworks in honor of Stalin (Sztálinváros).

Hungary – November 2, 1951 (HC)

Two-year general certificate courses are started for workers, the first year being an evening school, and the second a full time one.

Hungary – November 3, 1951 (HC)

The Second Hungarian Fine Arts Exhibition opens in the Art Gallery of Budapest.

Soviet Union / Turkey – November 3, 1951 (KCA)

In a note to the Turkish Government, the Soviet Union warns Turkey of adhering to NATO, declaring that such adherence will be regarded by the USSR as an unfriendly act.

Soviet Bloc / U.S. – November 3, 1951 (LBC)

It is revealed that the U.S. passed the Mutual Security Act, which will enable President Truman to assist East European underground movements from a \$100 million fund.

Poland / Sweden - November 5, 1951 (OSA)

Reportedly, the Polish government tries to pressure Sweden in order to establish a trade agreement on new terms. Negotiations proceed very slowly and are subject to very hard bargaining.

Soviet Union / France / U.K. / U.S. / U.N. – November 6, 1951 (LBC)

The U.S., United Kingdom and France announce a joint disarmament and peace plan. According to the proposal, to be presented in the U.N. on **November 8**, a special formula would determine how many weapons each nation would need to disarm after having made an inventory of their arms based on weapon types. The arms would be inventoried step-by-step. - **November 18**. Compromises: the ban on nuclear weapons is an objective; peace in Korea and the settlement of other outstanding East-West disputes is not a precondition of disarmament; the U.N. Security Council will draft the disarmament agreement. – **November 28**. The U.S., British and French U.N. delegates propose a four-power disarmament plan. The Soviet Foreign Minister Vishinsky labels the plan hypocritical.

Hungary – November 7, 1951 (HC)

The first three plants of the Stalin Ironworks (today Danube Ironworks in Dunaújváros) are opened in Sztálinváros (the Hungarian Stalingrad).

Yugoslavia / U.S. – November 7, 1951 (LKT)

President Truman informs the necessary congressional committees that Yugoslavia meets the requirements of the Mutual Security Act and sends \$77.5 million in military aid and additional amounts of economic aid to Tito's Government.

Hungary – November 7, 1951 (OSA)

The Hungarian Council of Popular Economy allegedly orders the Ministry of Foreign Trade not to import Christmas trees. Likewise, the Hungarian Ministry of Agriculture forbids the growing of trees to be sold as Christmas trees, because of environmental reasons. This may cause a Christmas without Christmas trees.

Hungary – November 8, 1951 (OSA)

Hungary begins to produce the “V” weapon for the Soviet Union. These aluminum hulls are allegedly produced in Pestszentlőrinc and Székesfehérvár. They are produced on a separate floor, under the supervision of Russian Soviet technicians. They are later transported in wooden boxes, watched by the Soviet military.

Soviet Union / Yugoslavia / U.N. – November 9, 1951 (PLC)

Yugoslavia complains to the U.N. that the Soviet Union is behaving like an enemy.

Hungary – November 10, 1951 (HC)

Decree 194/1951 by the Council of Ministers announces that a complaint book system will be introduced at the state institutions and factories.

Soviet Union – November 10, 1951 (KCA)

Moscow radio announces that Minister of Foreign Trade Menshikov has been released from his duties and transferred to other work, the nature of which is not disclosed, and will be succeeded by Mr. Kумыkin, hitherto his deputy.

Hungary – November 11, 1951 (HC)

Statutory rule 1951:30 by the Presidential Council states that all workers will take part in a single social security and pension-system.

Yugoslavia / U.K. – November 11, 1951 (PVC)

The new British Ambassador to Yugoslavia Ivo Mallet presents his credentials to Yugoslav President Ivan Ribar. Tito received the new Ambassador a day earlier, on **November 10, 1951**.

Poland / U.S. – November 12, 1951 (LBC)

Truman permits General Motors to sell \$216 thousand worth of non-strategic trucks and automobile parts to Poland.

Soviet Union / Poland – November 13, 1951 (OSA)

A local passenger train between Przemysl and Lwow is established, even though as a rule passenger traffic goes by Brzesc. The civilian passenger traffic by Rawa Ruska was stopped in 1948. At the end of June 1951, cars transporting Katiushas come, with inscriptions about Socialism.

Yugoslavia / U.S. – November 14, 1951 (KCA)

Yugoslavia and the United States sign an agreement under which the latter has agreed to furnish military aid to the former under the Mutual Security Act, whilst Yugoslavia has agreed to facilitate the production and export of raw and semi-finished materials required by the US.

Bulgaria / Yugoslavia – November 14, 1951 (PVC)

The Bulgarian Foreign Office denies the Yugoslav charges about border incidents

in its latest note to Yugoslavia and accuses the Yugoslav authorities of deliberately opening fire at Bulgarian border guards and obstructing railway and road transport between the two countries.

Soviet Union / France / U.S. – November 15, 1951 (LBC)

President Truman rejects a proposal by French President Vincent Auriol for a Pleven-Churchill-Stalin meeting.

U.S. / Soviet Union – November 16, 1951 (OSA)

The Soviet ambassador in the USA holds a ceremony on November 7, the anniversary of the Bolshevik revolution. One diplomat from a satellite country shows his disappointment, saying that the interiors of the Embassy are average and old-fashioned, without any Soviet, Socialist motives. The main attraction of this ceremony is the buffet. Only a small part of those invited show up at the Embassy's ceremonies. Diplomatic corps are represented in full, except for those countries which do not maintain relations with the Soviet Union. The main drink is vodka, food is plentiful and excellent. The hosts - Soviet diplomats - have to wear their dark blue uniforms with golden insignia. During the ceremony, they are ordered to concentrate on the duties, without eating or drinking. The MVD is invariably in the hall, performing servant duties. They speak better English than regular diplomatic officers.

Soviet Union / France / U.K. / U.S. / U.N. – November 16, 1951 (LBC)

Vishinsky's disarmament proposal: atomic weapons should be "disarmed under strict international control". The U.S., the USSR, U.K. and France should reduce their armed forces within one year; all nations should reveal the number of their nuclear arms one month after the nuclear weapons are banned; an international committee supervised by the U.N. Security Council should control disarmament and the execution of the ban of nuclear weapons. – *December 3*. Vishinsky rejects the international supervision of Soviet atomic facilities.

Hungary / US / Soviet Union – November 19, 1951 (HC)

An American military plane enters Hungarian airspace and is forced to land by the Soviet air forces. The Hungarian Government protests in a note to the American Government on December 3. On 11 December the Hungarian Government protests in another note and the American excuse (that it occurred due to navigational error) is not accepted by the Hungarian side.

Albania – November 19, 1951 (OSA)

The Yugoslav press reports that Albania's concentrations camps are full, leading to new camps being established (at Sarande, Petreles and Tepelene). Camps are notorious for cruelty, inadequate supplies, and an "unusually high mortality rate." The USSR profits from Albanian produce and Soviet "advisers" arrest factory managers who fail to meet "abnormally high" quotas. Albanian State Security

coerces special border units to provoke incidents by firing on Yugoslavs. A strict curfew after 8 pm hours is allegedly enforced through severe punishment.

Yugoslavia / U.K. – November 20, 1951 (PVC)

In his speech at the House of Commons, Foreign Minister Anthony Eden mentions the basic lines of the new government's policy on Yugoslavia.

Romania – November 21, 1951 (PIR)

Ion E. Costinescu, former Minister of Labor, Health and Social Protection (1934-1937, 1938), dies in Sighet penitentiary.

Soviet Union / U.S. – November 21, 1951 (CWC)

The Soviet Union protests the Mutual Security Act passed on **October 8**, stating that the provision authorizing the \$100 million to help refugees from Communist countries violates the 1933 agreement between Roosevelt and Soviet Foreign Minister Litvinov.

Soviet Union / Middle East / U.S. – November 21-22, 1951 (KCA)

The Soviet Government hands notes to Egypt, Syria, Lebanon, Iraq, Israel, Saudi Arabia and Yemen, warning them against adhering to the projected Allied Middle East Command, describing it as “an aggressive instrument of its organizers, headed by the United States”.

Yugoslavia / Italy / Trieste – November 21, 1951 (NBT)

Negotiations start between Italy and Yugoslavia on the Trieste problem in Paris during the sixth regular session of the United Nations.

Yugoslavia / U.S. – November 22, 1951 (LKT)

Robert Joyce and other U.S. officials discuss the issue of military assistance with Vladimir Velebit.

Hungary / Yugoslavia – November 23, 1951 (HC)

The Hungarian Government raises objections in a note to Yugoslavia because of the serial border incidents.

Czechoslovakia – November 24, 1951 (PLC)

Rudolf Slansky, the former General Secretary of the Czechoslovak Communist Party, is arrested.

Soviet Union / FRG – November 24, 1951 (CWC)

The Soviet Union protests the Paris agreements that restore the sovereignty of West Germany in an article in *Pravda*.

Hungary / Yugoslavia / – November 24, 1951 (PVC)

The British legation in Budapest reports on the latest note of Hungary protesting 111 border incidents caused by the Yugoslavs. According to the note, Hungary

considers the Yugoslav steps a systematic effort to undermine the stability of the Hungarian Government.

Poland / Italy - November 26, 1951 (OSA)

A general meeting of the Association of Free Polish Journalists in Italy is held in Rome. The association decides to join the protest against the use of the title “Polish Delegation” by the Communist Government of Bierut at the UN.

East Germany—November 27, 1951 (OSA)

Rostock is one of the largest trans-shipment ports in Eastern Germany and is on the list to be enlarged. It is guarded by armed soviet soldiers who are especially on the lookout for smugglers. 2000 dockers work in the port. The main form of ship to transit through the port is Scandinavian or Soviet. The Soviet ships primarily still load war reparation goods, especially sugar.

Hungary / U.S. – December 26, 1951 (LBC)

The U.S. announces that it is willing to pay ransom for the military personnel of the U.S. military plane that was forced to land in Hungary by a Soviet jet in November. Truman announces that there is nothing he can do about the matter. Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee Tom Connally demands breaking off diplomatic relations with Hungary. – December 28. The four U.S. flyers are released for a \$120 thousand ransom. Acheson announces a ban on the visit of U.S. citizens to Hungary, and the Cleveland and New York Hungarian consulates are closed immediately.

Soviet Union / Yugoslavia / U.N. – November 26-27, 1951 (RYN)

Milovan Djilas, Yugoslav delegate in the ad hoc Political Committee of the U.N. General Assembly, which deals with the anti-Yugoslav campaign of the Soviet Union and its Eastern European satellites, sets forth the basis of the Yugoslav case against the Soviet bloc.

Czechoslovakia – November 27, 1951 (KCA)

Prague radio announces the arrest of prominent Communist party member Rudolf Slansky on charges of “conspiracy against the State,” informing of his resignation from the National Assembly and his dismissal from his former post of Deputy Premier.

Albania / Greece – November 27, 1951 (OSA)

On 27 October 1951, Radio Tirana announced that nine of thirteen Albanian nationalists parachuted into North Albania in September were killed and the other four were captured. Albanian refugees in Greece claim nationalists have been performing sabotage near Kavaja (Durazzo), destroying a large bridge. Allegedly, around 16,000 Albanians are interned in concentration camps. Additionally, a trial of fourteen nationalists, begun in 1950, has resulted in death or imprisonment for all involved. “Zaccariades,” trained at Gramsh by the Albanian government,

reappear in Greece to hinder nationalists. Greek Communists who fled to Albania are transferred to Hungary.

Albania – November 27, 1951 (OSA)

Albanian refugees to Greece report that strong law enforcement in Central Albania has accompany new heavy taxes nationally. Small uprisings in Central Albania are swiftly crushed with participants arrested. Allegedly, prisoners in jails receive 500 grams of bread daily, whilst those in labor camps receive 650 grams. 2-3 prisoners in 1,000 die daily.

Albania – November 27, 1951 (OSA)

A diplomat who left Albania in October 1951 reports that the families of Soviet officials in Albania have returned to Moscow. This caused unease in Tirana's population as it led to rumors that Enver Hoxha would be replaced by Mehmet Shehu. "Political circles" have connected Shehu's rising popularity, Hoxha's "Titoist deviationism," and the unexplained evacuation of the families. This information is separately confirmed.

Yugoslavia / UK – November 28, 1951 (PVC)

The telegram of Ivo Mallet, British Ambassador to Belgrad, to the Foreign Office about Drew Pearson's interview with Tito, is published in *Borba*, the official daily paper of the Yugoslav Communist Party. During the interview, Tito promises the settlement of the Stepinac question within a month or two.

Yugoslavia – November 29, 1951 (PVC)

Borba officially announces the release of Josip, Metropolitan of Skopje.

Soviet Union / Hungary – November 29, 1951 (OSA)

At the end of 1951, Hungary exports 50 freight cars of cigarettes to the Soviet Union. These cigarettes are manufactured for the USSR. The largest part of the tobacco comes from Turkey and Bulgaria and is exported to the USSR after manufacture.

Yugoslavia / U.S. November 29, 1951 (LUY)

U.S. Delegate to the U.N. John Sherman voices political support to Yugoslavia in its case at the ad hoc Political Committee of the U.N. on the Cominform military pressure on Yugoslavia.

December 1951

Poland / Sweden - December 1951 (OSA)

Five competent Swedish maritime societies signed a note to the Swedish Foreign Office expressing their indignation over the arbitrary treatment of Swedish shipping personnel in Polish harbors, as they are often illegally detained by the Polish Communist police for long inquiries.

Poland - December 1951 (OSA)

Władysław Gomułka and Władysław Wolski may collaborate. Wolski, a former Minister of Interior and former member of the Party's Central Executive, is now in prison accused of nationalism, enmity towards the Soviet Union, and other charges.

Poland / Denmark - December 1951 (OSA)

Tensions between Poland and Denmark arise after Denmark refuses to relax strict export regulations and controls of strategically important goods directed to Poland. The Polish Government threatens to stop contracting deliveries of coal, but Denmark refuses to surrender. New negotiations are predicted to be on the way.

Yugoslavia – December 1951 (BST)

The Yugoslav Army is renamed as the Yugoslav People's Army.

Hungary – December 1, 1951 (REV)

The Public Works Directorate (KÖMI) is established under the Justice Ministry to organize productive employment for prisoners and internees. Companies using KÖMI labor include mines (Szuhakálló, Ormosbánya, Farkaslyuk, Csolnok, Tatabánya Shaft 14, Komló and Várpalota), state farms (Baracska, Bernátkút and Pálhalma) and construction sites (Miskolc university town, Hejőcsaba Cement Works, Sajóbáony, Inota and Kalocsa).

Hungary – December 2, 1951 (HC)

Decree 1034/1951 by the Hungarian Council of Ministers announces the abolition of the food stamp system and the introduction of a new price and wage system. Agricultural goods will be allowed to be traded freely. This decree is based on the November 30 declaration of the leaders of the Hungarian Workers' Party.

Albania – December 4, 1951 (OSA)

An Albanian refugee in Yugoslavia alleges total Soviet rule of Albania by Soviet agents Cuvahin, Sokolov, and Gilazgov who direct diplomacy, military, and propaganda respectively. The Soviet education system has been introduced and most Albanian history effaced from the curriculum. The source connects these changes with 100 pupils' dismissal in the school year 1950-51; moreover, resistant teachers face unemployment "in the street."

Yugoslavia – December 5, 1951 (KCA/PVC)

It is officially announced in Belgrade that Archbishop Stepinac has been released from prison after having served just over 5 years of a 16 year sentence. The archbishop is transferred to his native village, Krašnić, where he is put in charge of the local parish. Technically, he is placed under house arrest.

Yugoslavia / Vatican – December 6, 1951 (KCA)

Stepinac celebrates his first mass in public as an assistant priest, insisting that he is still the legitimate Archbishop of Zagreb and not the 'former' Archbishop, as he

had been described by the Government. The Vatican organ *Osservatore Romano* expresses satisfaction at Stepinac's release, also insisting that he is still the Archbishop.

Czechoslovakia – December 7, 1951 (KCA)

It is announced that two new members have been appointed to the reorganized Presidium of the Communist Party, Vaclav Kopecky, Minister of Information, and Antonin Novotny, a member of the party secretariat.

Hungary – December 10, 1951 (OSA)

According to unconfirmed sources, the Hungarian health minister Anna Ratkó proposed to increase the capacity of Hungarian mental asylums, because of scaring reports showing a huge increase in mental illnesses. As many as half of the Hungarian patients are said to have mental problems, 80% of them have neuro-psychopaths. Some of the causes are said to be unbearable working rhythms, lack of proper relaxation.

Soviet Union – December 10, 1951 (OSA)

In the 1951 Soviet Union seamen are paid better than soldiers, four times as much. Seamen also receive a larger amount of food and drink.

Soviet Bloc / Yugoslavia / Romania – December 10-19, 1951 (PVC)

The fifth session of the conference of the Danube Commission is under way at Galac, Romania.

Hungary – December 11, 1951 (HC)

Statutory rule 1951:33 by the Presidential Council states that a Committee of Cooperatives will be set up led by István Dobi.

East Germany/Poland—December 11, 1951 (OSA)

The Thuringian state organisation 'German-Polish Society for Peace and good neighbourliness' endured underwent criticism at its yearly conference as part of a drive of mandated 'self-criticism'. It is part of a wider drive by the SED to reduce this and other organisations like it to mere propaganda groups. It is stressed furthermore, that in the population of the Eastern German bloc it is emphasised that they only reject the friendship demanded and propagated by the SED and other communist organisations.

Romania / China – December 12, 1951 (PIR)

The first accord for cultural collaboration between Romania and China is signed in Beijing.

Soviet Union – December 12, 1951 (OSA)

In 1951, the USSR holds talks with Scandinavian countries to increase their trade with the Eastern Bloc. The revitalization of East-West trade is important for the

USSR because of late economic difficulties. The USSR was ready to export consumer goods to make up for their imports which cannot be compensated by cash payments. Some nations claim that the Soviet Union's final target is to loosen the ties of the Atlantic Pact community.

Poland – December 14, 1951 (PSN)

The trial of Witold Pajor, Zygmint Ojrzynski, Stanislaw Nienaltowski and Andrzej Czystowski, who under Nazi occupation worked in the secret Polish investigation office within the State Security Corps, begins.

Yugoslavia / Soviet Union / U.N. – December 14, 1951 (RYN)

The U.N. General Assembly recognizes the Yugoslav complaint against the Soviet Union and its Eastern European allies, and passes a resolution directed at the Soviet bloc countries which calls on them to conduct their relations with other states in accordance with the provision of the Charter; to follow the usual laws and practices of diplomacy; and to solve all border difficulties through a mixed border commission or some other peaceful means.

Hungary – December 18, 1951 (HC)

The clothes factory in Zalaegerszeg is opened.

East Germany—December 18, 1951 (OSA)

In SED party-circles criticism is being made of the fact that inns and bars are serving dishes such as “Königsberger Klopse” and “Bismarck Herrings” are still being served despite the inappropriate historical links these dishes make running contrary to SED political awareness raising policies.

Hungary – December 18, 1951 (REV)

In the trial of János Kádár and associates, Sándor Haraszti is sentenced to death, Kádár to life, and Gyula Kállai and Ferenc Donáth to 15 years' penal servitude (Haraszti is reprieved in January 1954).

East/West Germany—December 19, 1951 (OSA)

The West German towns Ülzen, Giessen and Poggenhagen took in 3,742 refugees, whereas West-Berlin alone has taken in 5,100 Asylum seekers. Since 1951 442 policemen alone have registered themselves in West Germany.

Hungary – December 21, 1951 (HC)

The Hungarian Government sends a memorandum to the US Government stating the soldiers on the US airplane caught on November 19, 1951 will be tried in Hungary.

Hungary – December 21, 1951 (REV)

A giant statue of Stalin by Sándor Mikus is inaugurated on the site of the demolished Regnum Marianum Church in Budapest.

Albania – December 21, 1951 (OSA)

A Vatican source mentions fortifications to protect against Tito of Yugoslavia and others against the Greeks. Saseno island allegedly houses air and sea defenses, whilst stationing Soviet submarines and radar. Launching emplacements threatening southern Italy, airfields and training camps have also been constructed, but there is no evidence of warplanes, only four civilian transports, and an anti-malaria plane.

Poland - December 22, 1951 (OSA)

Reportedly, the number of Polish ships operating in the Far East shipping line has been increased from 12 to 20 ships (18 of them allotted permanently on the line).

Yugoslavia – December 27-29, 1951 (JVJ)

The Yugoslav Parliament approves the first laws aiming to adopt some elements of a market-oriented economy.

Hungary / U.S. – December 28, 1951 (HC)

The American State Department notifies the Hungarian Foreign Ministry that the Hungarian consulates will be closed. The U.S. intends to protest in this manner against Hungarian authorities because they did not allow employees of the American legation of Budapest to visit arrested American soldiers who had violated Hungarian air space on **November 19**.

Albania / Bulgaria / Greece – December 28, 1951 (OSA)

The Greek Army claims that camps containing Greek guerrillas, as well as Greek Army and Security prisoners, continue to exist in Bulgaria and Albania. Most guerrillas are compulsorily enlisted. 600 guerrillas are transported from Elbasan to Poland for military training, but are attacked on their way to Elbasan by the Albanian pro-democratic and anti-Hoxha guerrillas, the “Baliste.” Berkovita concentration camp in Bulgaria contains 6,000 guerillas who “lost courage before the enemy.” Greek Communist refugees to Cominform are employed in Eastern Europe and Uzbekistan. This is all unconfirmed.

Yugoslavia – December 28, 1951 (KCA)

The Yugoslav Minister of Finance announces that, with the approval of the International Monetary Fund, the Yugoslav dinar will be devalued from **January 1, 1952**. The IMF announces new parities for its value against the U.S. dollar and fine gold.

Yugoslavia / Hungary – December 28, 1951 (PVC)

Borba publishes the latest Yugoslav note of protest to Hungary. According to the text, the Hungarians occupied an island, made recently by the current of the water, in the River Mura.

Yugoslavia / India – December 29, 1951 (PVC)

The British Embassy in Belgrade informs the Foreign Office that Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Joze Vilfan has recently been appointed Yugoslav Ambassador to India. The step signifies the importance of close Yugoslav-Indian relationships for the Yugoslav leadership.

Hungary – December 30, 1951 (HC)

Kis Újság, the newspaper of the Independent Smallholders' Party is abolished.

Hungary – December 30, 1951 (REV)

The labor-service army supply units are organized into a construction brigade. Three punitive 'special labor battalions' are also formed for soldiers convicted of minor crimes, but these also are filled with Category C conscripts. Conscription raises the brigade's strength to 10,400 men by **February 1952**.

Romania – December 31, 1951 (PIR)

The collectivization balance sheet: 1,089 GAC's, made up of 75,379 families and a land surface of 301,690ha.

Chronology 1952

Romania – 1952 (PIR)

The authorities set up the so-called trial of the "[Danube] Canal saboteurs".

Romania / Yugoslavia – 1952 (PIR)

Over 3,000 families coming from the Yugoslav border region of Banat, are accused of being former Titoists, kulaks and traitors, and are deported to Bărăgan.

Romania – 1952 (PIR)

The work colony Salcia, in Balta Mare a Brailei, with an initial housing capacity of 200 places that is later extended to 2,000 places, is created. A forced labor camp for political detainees, the colony is in fact a site for their extermination.

Soviet Union – 1952 (PLC)

The LLKS, the Lithuanian partisan movement, dissolves itself. All military anti-Soviet movements are abolished in the Baltic states (this applies to the whole of Eastern Europe).

January 1952

Hungary – January 1952 (OSA)

One-hundred and ten Greek workers cross the Hungarian border, both men and women. Seemingly, they are transferred to Hungary from Romanian factories. The workers are reportedly raggedly clad, dirty, and hungry, and they are sent to the Hungarian capital Budapest.

Hungary – January 1952 (HC)

The movie *Nyugati övezet* (“Western zone”), directed by Zoltán Várkonyi is first shown.

Yugoslavia / Hungary – January 1952 (HC)

In Vojvodina, an area of Yugoslavia mainly populated by Hungarians, the Hungarian Literature Association is founded by the Hungarian Cultural Committee.

Yugoslavia / Hungary – January 1952 (HC)

A new Hungarian minority periodical called *Magyar Képes Újság* is published in Zagreb.

Poland / U.K. - January 1952 (OSA)

Reportedly, British exports to Poland have to be reduced in January 1952. This is a result of the inability of the Warsaw government to oblige to the quantity and quality established in previous negotiations. These reductions are carried out at the expense of goods for civil consumption.

Poland / Denmark - January 1952 (OSA)

A quarrel between Poland and Denmark arises about the price of coal, as Poland increases the price of bunker coal by eight dollars. This causes a six-month hold-up in Polish coal deliveries to Denmark.

Poland / Soviet Union - January 1952 (OSA)

The Soviets control the execution of the economic Six-Year-Plan in Poland. Reportedly, all the most important projects of the plan will be realized following Soviet instructions.

Poland - January 1, 1952 (OSA)

The Union of Work Cooperatives merges with the Artisans Central organization, becoming the Union of Industrial and Artisan Cooperative. This new organization, subordinated to the Ministry of Light Industry and Crafts, aims to make easier the liquidation of private artisan workshops and their transfer to Artisan Cooperatives.

Hungary - January 2, 1952 (OSA)

1952 Christmas shopping is reported to be one-third of that of the previous year. The Christmas market is characterized by a relative abundance of goods, very high prices, and a very low number of buyers. On December 2, 1951, the government filled state shops with goods which were previously very difficult to obtain.

Albania / Hungary – January 2, 1952 (OSA)

A source claims that, in October 1951, workmen were sent from Budapest to Tirana, Valona, and Stalin in Albania to help build broadcasting stations. Separate information suggests that such stations create propaganda against the West and often utilize joint Warsaw-Pact labor.

Yugoslavia / France / U.K. / U.S. – January 4, 1952 (KCA)

It is announced in Belgrade that the U.S., Britain and France have agreed to provide a further immediate grant of \$25 million to Yugoslavia by way of underwriting the Yugoslav foreign trade deficit for the first half of 1952.

Yugoslavia / U.S. – January 4, 1952 (CUY)

The National Intelligence Agency prepares its latest estimate on Yugoslavia, "Probable Developments in Yugoslavia and the Likelihood of Attack Upon Yugoslavia, through 1952."

Hungary – January 5, 1952 (OSA)

A 63-year-old former journalist from Hungary reports his difficulties in obtaining a passport to an expatriate. In theory, a Hungarian citizen over 60 may apply for a passport to join relatives living abroad, claiming s/he cannot be taken care of at home. However, the procedure is difficult. A criminal record is required which certifies the person has not breached fiscal laws, and it often happens that inexistent "breaches" come up right during application.

Hungary – January 5, 1952 (HC)

Statutory rule 1952:1 by the Presidential Council states that new ministries will be established; Ministry of Forestry and Field Farming, Ministry of Food Industry, Ministry of Medium Machine Industry, Ministry of Building Materials, Ministry of Post and Ministry of Local Industry.

Hungary – January 5, 1952 (HC)

Statutory rule 1952:2 by the Presidential Council regulates the state collection system.

Poland / U.S. – January 5, 1952 (HDP)

Poland loses most-favored-nation status in the U.S.

Yugoslavia / U.S. – January 8, 1952 (KCA)

The U.S. Ambassador and the Yugoslav Foreign Minister sign an "economic co-operation agreement" setting out the conditions under which Yugoslavia is provided with U.S. economic and technical aid.

Hungary – January 8, 1952 (OSA)

Eighty former Greek partisans working in Hungary are allegedly recruited into an international brigade for Korea. These workers arrived in Hungary in the summer of 1951, coming through Bulgaria and Romania. Some of these workers are young men, and they know nothing about their families back in Greece. Some are told that their families were killed by the Monarchists-Fascists. Some of the youngest froze or starved in Bulgarian and Romanian refugee camps.

East Germany—January 8, 1952 (OSA)

The number of locomotives needing repairs grows in East Germany. Since 1945 components for wheels were rarely renewed or maintained. Because of this lack of maintenance, a number of locomotives have gone out of service affecting transit operations.

Czechoslovakia – January 8, 1952 (OSA)

The Communist Party secretariat of Prague publishes confidential circulars to all the local party groups in small villages and towns demanding them to introduce a special supervision service checking RFE broadcasts in particular the “My to Vieme” programs. If any concrete facts are ever mentioned on the broadcasts, which concern military organizations, this should be directly and instantly communicated to the secret police.

Poland / Ukraine - January 9, 1952 (OSA)

About 2,000 former soldiers of the Polish Home Army are reported to be detained in two forced labor camps in South-East Poland together with members of the Ukrainian National Organization.

Soviet Union / Poland – January 10, 1952 (OSA)

A large amount of grain from Poland meant to be sent to the USSR and stored in Baranowicze Oblast is ruined by moisture and rain. Fortunately, the Oblast does not have to take responsibility for that.

East Germany—January 10, 1952 (OSA)

The Soviets are reported to be improving and extending the infrastructure at their Baltic seaports at the expense of the East German State. Examples of this co-option are the instructions made of the Thuringian steelworks to provide a special dock leveller and of the Eberswalder crane-factory to provide 16 gantry cranes by the end of 1951.

Soviet Union / U.S. – January 12, 1952 (LBC)

Vishinski’s disarmament proposal: the Soviet Union accepts the “strict international control” of the International Atomic Energy Agency, which would enter into force after the banning of the A bomb, but the observers may not intervene in domestic affairs and may not stay continuously in the atomic facilities.

Czechoslovakia – January 12, 1952 (OSA)

It is stipulated in the wage law that in case of good work extra money should be paid to the worker as a bonus. However, this not applied in the several mines of Ostrava anymore. According to a new practice, workers get certificates or medals for the good work instead of actual money. This new practice leads to a decline in the mine output.

Yugoslavia / Austria / FRG – January 14, 1952 (OEH)

Yugoslavia signs a transit traffic agreement with Austria and the Federal Republic of Germany.

Romania / Soviet Union – January 16, 1952 (PIR)

The session of the People's Republic of Romania (RPR) committee for the preparation of the International Economic Conference in Moscow (**March, 1952**) takes place with the participation of Al. Bârlădeanu, Minister of Exterior Commerce, Constantin Agiu, director of Centrocoop, Barbu Zaharescu, Head of the Political Economy Faculty at the University, and Manea Mănescu, Director of the Statistics Commission.

Hungary – January 17, 1952 (OSA)

According to unconfirmed sources, a tobacco factory in the Hungarian town of Pécs produces tobacco for the Soviet Army, as much as one wagon per week. Eight Russian workers are employed at the factory to make sure that tobacco satisfies Russian taste. The factory director Ede Kaucz established a mandatory Russian course for workers.

Hungary – January 17, 1952 (HC)

A nationwide work competition movement starts in Hungary which is organized for the 60th birthday of Mátyás Rákosi.

Czechoslovakia / U.S. – January 18, 1952 (LBC)

The Department of Treasury expropriates a steel mill purchased by Czechoslovakia in 1948, the parts of which are in a warehouse. The measure is taken on the basis of the 1917 Trading with the Enemy Act.

Yugoslavia – January 18, 1952 (KCA)

It is announced that the Yugoslav Finance Minister has issued an order cancelling the regulation which previously obliged holders of foreign currency to offer it to the National Bank for purchase. The order also authorizes the National Bank to purchase foreign currency from all Yugoslav holders of such currency, regardless of where it had been acquired.

Hungary – January 19, 1952 (HC)

Decree 1002/1952 by the Council of Ministers announces that all concerts will be organized by the state. The central administrative organization is to facilitate them under the name of State Philharmonic.

Hungary – January 19, 1952 (HC)

Decree 7/1952 by the Council of Ministers announces that payments for water resources will be abolished and that collective farms and state-owned factories will not have to pay taxes. Agricultural workers will not have to pay income taxes either.

Yugoslavia – January 20, 1952 (KCA)

Belgrade announces that a new dinar exchange rate has been established in the Yugoslav Zone of Trieste (Zone B) in order to conform to recent devaluation of the dinar in Yugoslavia.

Yugoslavia – January 20, 1952 (ACY)

Vovk, Bishop of Ljubljana, is the victim of a particularly brutal attack. He is assaulted in the station at Novo Mesto and petrol is thrown over him and ignited.

Soviet Bloc / Western Europe / U.N. – January 22-February 8, 1952 (KCA)

The U.N. Commission responsible for investigating the fate of prisoners of war who have not been repatriated or accounted for from the Soviet Union holds hearings in Geneva. Nine of the ten countries invited attend the hearings, but the Soviet Union decides not to take part. The Commission has a questionnaire from 82 Governments regarding the status of their country's nationals in the Soviet Union. Austria reports that the process of repatriation has commenced and the German Federal Government replies that a large number of German nationals remain unaccounted for, citing this as a cause of grave concern. Italy states that the Soviet Union has not given the requested information regarding the status of its nationals in Russia. Japan places the number of Japanese still in the Soviet Union at 370,000, and France replies that all French P.O.W.s have been repatriated, save for those sentenced or awaiting trial for alleged war crimes.

Romania – January 22, 1952 (PIR)

A solemn meeting takes place in Bucharest, commemorating 28 years since the death of V.I. Lenin.

Hungary / Soviet Union – January 23, 1952 (HC)

A Hungarian-Soviet mutual, four-year (for 1952-55) trade agreement is signed.

Poland – January 23, 1952 (PSN)

The Constitutional Committee appointed in 1951 adopts a draft constitution on **January 23, 1952**. Four days later the draft was published and Poland changes its name to the Polish People's Republic.

Romania / UN – January 23, 1952 (PIR)

Romania protests against its discrimination by the admissions commissions of the UN.

Czechoslovakia / France – January 24, 1952 (OSA)

The French CFDI (Committee for defense of immigrants) will be holding a congress in February 1952. The committee is pro-communist, and the main purpose of the committee is to protect the communist immigrants, but what they do instead is blaming immigrants for the current economic stagnation of France. The

Committee basically tries its best to renew the tension between French citizens and immigrants, whom they also call “Dirt of Fascism.”

Romania – January 25, 1952 (PIR)

Regimes for the sale of agricultural products by producers are established; the law on the agricultural tax is modified and the model statute of agricultural comradesly associations (“întovărășirile agricole”) is elaborated.

Soviet Union / Italy – January 25, 1952 (KCA)

Responding to a note from the Italian Government of **December 8, 1951** asking for the signatory Powers to agree to a revision of the Italian Peace Treaty, the Soviet Government accuses Italy of participating in the “aggressive Atlantic bloc,” declaring it would only agree to revise the treaty if Italy left NATO.

Romania – January 26, 1952 (PIR)

MAN emits Decree no. 37 regarding the completion of the monetary reform and the reduction of commercial prices for the main food and industrial products.

Poland – January 27, 1952 (KCA)

The new Polish Constitution is published.

Poland - January 27, 1952 (OSA)

The draft of the new Constitution of Poland is officially announced and will be voted by Parliament in a few months. The new constitution embodies an old tendency of the regime in stating that relations between the State and the Church are regulated by separate laws.

Hungary – January 29, 1952 (REV)

The Military Supreme Court commutes the death sentence of Colonel General Béla Király to life imprisonment. He is found guilty of war crimes and criminal acts against the state. His associates receive prison sentences of 10–12 years.

GDR / Soviet Union / Poland - January 30, 1952 (OSA)

Polish political prisoners are deported to Kaliningrad from Gdansk and sent to the sovkhoses north of Insterburg, where they are to drain swamps. Their living conditions are very poor, a lot of prisoners are left to die.

Soviet Union / Sweden – January 31, 1952 (OSA)

With the new Soviet-Swedish trade agreement signed in Stockholm, the total exchange of goods increases to 180-200 million kronor. The Swedish side mostly imports wheat and exports iron, steel, metal, rayon wool, etc. Additionally, Sweden separates their exporting goods into two types. The first can be delivered immediately, while the second will be delivered later in 1952. Altogether, Swedish exports to the USSR amount to 20-30 million kronor.

East Germany—January 31, 1952 (OSA)

Due to the continued shortage in materials at least 400 locomotives were retired from usage. In order to continue the flow of transport, the Soviet control committee was requested to spare 50 of the 300 locomotives pledged as reparations goods. Due to the shortage of goods wagons are not being made and stations are missing their production targets due to shortages in goods such as fluorescent carbide.

East Germany—January 31, 1952 (OSA)

25 of the 130 East German cutterfleet vessels are reported to be no longer operational with a further 70 in need of repairs. Furthermore, replaced and newer boats are reported to have faulty or substandard motors. The different allocation policies for materials contributed to this state of affairs with selfemployed/independent fishermen receiving little to no help, whereas fisherman belonging to co-operatives and state-fisheries combines are given a disproportionate amount of help.

February 1952

Yugoslavia / France / U.K. / U.S. – February-April 1952 I (HWC)

The second tripartite conference is held in Washington. The conference report of **21 April 1952** concludes that Yugoslavia would need about £35 million (about \$99 million), of which the U.S. should undertake to pay £28 million (\$78 million), the British £4.5 million (\$12.6 million) and the French £3 million (\$8.4 million). The British Cabinet approves of the Washington report on **15 May 1952**.

East Germany—February 2, 1952 (OSA)

Conversations held by citizens of the Soviet controlled zones with western border officials made an offence punishable by imprisonment (however brief) as exemplified in a case on the 5 December 1951 as two citizens of the Eastern zone were arrested for attempting contact with Bavarian border-police but released after being imprisoned for two days.

Hungary – February 3, 1952 (HC)

Szabad Szó, the central newspaper of the National Peasants' Party since 1945, is abolished.

Yugoslavia / France / U.K. / U.S. / Greece / Turkey – February 5, 1952 (LBC)

Truman announces a \$478 million military assistance for the rearmament programs of the U.K., France, Greece, Turkey and Yugoslavia.

Hungary – February 6, 1952 (HC)

The first trolleybus made in Hungary after the war is tested.

Romania / U.K. – February 6, 1952 (PIR)

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of RPR sends a note to the Legation of the U.K. in

Bucharest, protesting the assembly in London of Eastern European exiles in a Conference of the Commission for Central and Eastern Europe of the European movement, which organizes actions against RPR.

Poland / Soviet Union / U.S. – February 6, 1952 (CWC)

A former Polish soldier testifies to a special committee of the U.S. House of Representatives that he saw the Soviets execute 200 Polish officers in the Katyn forest in 1940.

Soviet Union / United Nations – February 6, 1952 (KCA)

Soviet Representative Malik makes it clear that his Government cannot accept the admission to the U.N. of Italy, Finland, Ireland, Portugal, Austria, Ceylon and Jordan unless Romania, Hungary, Albania and Mongolia are admitted simultaneously.

GDR / Poland – February 7, 1952 (KCA)

Poland and East Germany announce that they have signed an agreement regulating navigation on the Oder River which forms the boundary between the two countries.

Yugoslavia / France – February 8, 1952 (HWC)

The French Assemblée Nationale finally ratifies the Government's policy of granting aids to Yugoslavia.

Czechoslovakia / Soviet Union – February 8, 1952 (OSA)

The Czechoslovak citizens are in a real panic, because of the rumors about currency devaluation. The citizens line up in the big queues of different shops. They are so scared of the devaluation, that they want to transfer their money into the items. This panic is caused by some rumors, but no official statement has been made about the devaluation. According to the source, the information was leaked out by the government, so that people in the position of saving themselves can do it, before “the great protector Stalin shall have devoured all of Czechoslovakia.”

Soviet Union / Italy – February 9, 1952 (KCA)

The Italian Government presents a strongly worded note to the Soviet Government. It points out the Soviet Union's five vetoes on Italian membership to the U.N., contrary to the Soviet Government's past promise in the Italian Peace Treaty to support Italy's membership.

Hungary – February 10, 1952 (HC)

The Madách Theater presents *Út a tanyákról* (“Journeys from the farms”) by Imre Sarkadi in Budapest.

Albania – February 12, 1952 (OSA)

An Albanian refugee to Greece, a longshoreman from Durazzo, claims that Soviet

goods delivered to Albania are war material, despite being marked “medicines.” Longshoremen are warned by the Durazzo Political Secretary to keep the contents secret on the pain of death. Nevertheless, the longshoremen are otherwise unbothered by authorities.

Albania – February 13, 1952 (OSA)

It is claimed that 3,800 Soviet technicians and councilors are part of the Albanian administration, whilst the Stakhanovists Roza Hila and Dervish Mehmeti were recently elected to the Popular Assembly.

Albania – February 13, 1952 (OSA)

Through Yugoslav information, it is alleged that Soviet Military Instructors of the Albanian army are paid 25-35,000 Leka compared to only 5,000 for Albanian officers. Instructors receive more amenities like flour, sugar, meat, and olive oil, and are uniquely grated cheese and eggs. Finally, they can buy goods for low prices at special stores and pay very low rents.

Albania – February 14, 1952 (OSA)

Allegedly, two smallholders were sentenced to five years of forced labor in November 1951 due to failure to pay “heavy” taxes. In December 1951 two prisoners in the Kamze concentration camp died of starvation and torture, whilst a tradesman was arrested for seemingly misappropriating 70,000 Leks. Finally, it is claimed that two men were executed without trial due to government policy of liquidating “kulaks.” This is all unconfirmed.

Albania – February 14, 1952 (OSA)

An unconfirmed source alleges that Ali Elezi and Riza Queko from Elbasan were buried alive by concentration camp guards at camp Maliq, having been declared unfit for work. The camp’s commissary forced internees to assist to the burial. This information is unconfirmed.

Romania – February 15, 1952 (PIR)

The delegation of scientists in RPR celebrates 300 years since the founding of the Leopoldine Academy in Halle.

Soviet Union – February 15, 1952 (OSA)

Soviet propaganda claims that Soviet courts are the most democratic in the world. In reality, they do not implement justice. Rather, they ensure the dominance of leading party figures. Soviet courts ferociously punish farmers and workers for lateness and absenteeism. Thus, Soviet courts overwork workers. Soviet justice even establishes the death penalty for political crimes. In the USSR, no one is willing to stand out to protect workers and farmers.

Albania / Italy – February 16, 1952 (KCA)

The Albanian Government informs Italy that it can only agree to the revision of the peace treaty if Italy withdraws from the “aggressive Atlantic Pact”.

Hungary – February 17, 1952 (HC)

Statutory rule 1952:4 by the Presidential Council states that all privately-owned houses will be nationalized in case they need renovation and the owner cannot cover its cost or when their owner makes a profit by renting them out.

Czechoslovakia / Hungary / U.S. – February 18, 1952 (LBC)

The U.S. Senate proposes to sever diplomatic relations with Hungary and Czechoslovakia.

Hungary – February 18, 1952 (HC)

The food stamp system is brought to an end as meat stamps are abolished.

Soviet Union / Latvia – February 19, 1952 (OSA)

In 1938, before Soviet occupation, Latvians exported mostly to Great Britain, Germany, Scandinavia, and USSR, with percentages of 42%, 34%, 21%, and 3% respectively. However, due to Soviet oppression, Latvia lost both its political and economic independence. The USSR became Latvia's only commercial hub. After the occupation, Latvia started to develop in different fields such as building materials, agricultural products, machines, tools; and exported mostly to the Soviet Union. Moreover, Latvia imports most of the products from the USSR. Products such as wind turbines, coal, coke are imported from the Urals and Ukraine, Great Britain, Germany, and Poland.

Soviet Bloc / U.S. – February 20, 1952 (LBC)

The U.S. House of Representatives warns Truman not to make secret promises about sending U.S. troops abroad.

Yugoslavia – February 21, 1952 (KCA)

An announcement from Belgrade states that the Roman Catholic theological faculties of the Universities of Zagreb and Ljubljana and the Serbian Orthodox theological faculty at the University of Belgrade had been informed that they will be closed down effective from **June 28**. The official reason given is the implementation of the constitutional principle of separation of Church and State.

Albania – February 22, 1952 (OSA)

A southern Albanian peasant who fled to Greece in January 1952 claims that a worker's daily wage in his district (Delvine) is 80 Leka. Maize sells for 120 Leka per 1.25 kg on the black market, but a meter of cheap cotton costs 230 Leka from state shops. A packet of cigarettes costs 15 Leka and a pair of shoes 700.

East Germany/Poland—February 22, 1952 (OSA)

East German Shipyards have been favoured by the Soviet Union, with more contracts than ever being granted to East German shipyards than to other satellite states. With this favouritism the leadership of other Soviet-bloc countries, especially Poland becomes ever jealous. Especially given the supply of materials from the Soviet Union to Polish shipyards has slowed down with deliveries coming ever later.

Bulgaria / Turkey – February 23, 1952 (KCA)

Sofia announces that the Bulgarian Government has handed a note to the Turkish Chargé d’Affaires in Sofia protesting Turkey’s entry into the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, declaring its admission “an immediate threat to the security of the Bulgarian People’s Republic,” warning that it “cannot remain indifferent to this hostile policy.”

Soviet Union / Egypt – February 23, 1952 (KCA)

Cairo announces that it had concluded a barter agreement with the Soviet Union for the supply of 500,000 kantars of Egyptian cotton in exchange for 200,000 tons of Soviet wheat.

Soviet Bloc / U.S. – February 24, 1952 (LBC)

Secretary of Commerce Sawyer announces that Belgium, Denmark, France, Holland, Luxembourg, Italy, U.K., Norway, Germany and Portugal joined the U.S. embargo on strategic materials to Eastern Europe. In September the U.S. Department of Commerce reports that in 1951 U.S. exports to the Soviet bloc diminished to \$2.8 million from \$6.7 million in 1950. U.S. imports from the Soviet bloc decreased from \$80.5 million in 1950 to \$63.5 million in 1952.

Bulgaria / Yugoslavia – February 24, 1952 (OSA)

Anti-Yugoslav activities initiate in Bulgaria, after the Tito-Stalin split. Diplomatic relations between the two countries worsen, and a series of incidents at the borders bring Bulgaria to start the construction of additional defense in the Yugoslav border zone. Also, after increasing numbers of Bulgarians migrate to Yugoslavia, the Bulgarian Government protest against the Yugoslav border authorities, accusing them of “kidnapping” their citizens.

U.S. / FRG – February 25, 1952 (LBC)

The Lisbon conference of NATO accepts the plan relating to the establishment of the European Army, which would include West Germany.

Poland / Soviet Union / U.S. – February 25, 1952 (CWC)

The State Department sends a letter to the Soviet Union along with a House of Representatives resolution calling for an investigation of the culprit of the Katyn massacre in 1940.

Soviet Union / Italy – February 25, 1952 (KCA)

The Soviet reply to the Italian note is presented, saying that the Soviet Union “repeatedly proposed” the admission of Italy to the U.N. simultaneously with other countries, attributing Italy’s non-admission to the Western Powers, whom they accused of being opposed of admitting other countries equally as entitled to U.N. membership as Italy.

Hungary / Yugoslavia / U.K. / U.S. – February 25, 1952 (PVC)

Hungary accuses Yugoslavia of deliberately violating Hungarian airspace. According to the Hungarian charges, two Yugoslav planes flew into the Hungarian airspace. However, the British legation in Budapest believes that the incident might be caused by a lost American airplane.

Albania / Greece / Yugoslavia – February 28, 1952 (OSA)

Albanian exiles in Italy (Italian-Albanian unionists and other right-wingers) and French diplomatic sources (who act as diplomatic intermediaries between Albanian Catholics and the Vatican) allege that “Bolshevik terror” in Albania provoked unorganized resistance, and that 8,000 Albanians have fled Albania. The sources disagree on the refugees’ ideological composition. The Greek government discriminates against refugees with respect to religion, forcing Orthodox refugees to join the Greek Irredentist Movement (which seeks the annexation of Southern Albania to Greece). Conversely, refugees to Yugoslavia support Kosovan unification with Albania, but the Yugoslav government tolerates this due to propaganda value. A neo-fascist Albanian intellectual praises Yugoslav “courtesy,” but refugees are supervised by a founder of the Albanian Communist Party, displeasing them.

Poland / Soviet Union / U.S. – February 29, 1952 (CWC)

The Soviet Union responds to the American note of **February 25** with a note describing the charges concerning the Katyn case as insulting and provides evidence that the massacre was perpetrated by the Nazis.

Yugoslavia / France / U.K. / U.S. – February 29, 1952 (KCA)

Belgrade announces that Yugoslavia will receive an additional and final grant of \$45 million under the tripartite agreement between the U.S., the U.K. and France.

Bulgaria – February 29, 1952 (OSA)

The Bulgarian language is socialized, and the polite form of address is dropped off. “Comrade” is the main reference to all, reflecting the principle of equality among the people, regardless of age or class.

Hungary – February, 1952 (HC)

The movie *Tűzkeresztég* (‘Baptism of fire’) directed by Frigyes Bán is first shown.

March 1952

Poland / Soviet Union - March 1952 (OSA)

It is reported that a permanent industrial delegation from Poland headed by Minister Rozanski is installed permanently in Moscow.

Romania – March 1952 (OAS)

Seemingly, Stakhanovism in Romania is viewed with “suspicion.” Soviet factory-made goods are also known for their poor quality among the Romanians and the Russians alike. This proves the point that the Soviet methods are effective in increasing the quantity, not the quality.

Romania – March to June 1952 (OAS)

According to the document, reports have been made regarding Italian and foreign citizens that had been arrested by the Romanian authorities. The whereabouts of some of these individuals are unknown. Their occupations seemingly being “ex-bourgeois” and “ex-tradesmen”.

Bulgaria – March 1952 (OSA)

The Bulgarian budget is calculated at 370,146,000 Leva, with an increase of 23% compared to 1951. The budget is presented by Finance minister Lazarov Kyrill and described as a “peaceful socialist budget of construction.”

Hungary – March 1952 (OSA)

The 350 workers of the Cégled Building Enterprise are underpaid and hate their bosses. The shop floors are ill-equipped, there is a lack of toilets and showers, even basic hygienic norms are not respected. One worker of this company earns a bit more than 400 forints per month, which is little even according to Hungarian standards. There is a shortage of material and proper working tools. A Stakhanovite worker, however, can earn as much as 1,400 forints per month.

Poland / Soviet Union / U.S. – March 1, 1952 (PSN)

The Polish Government formally protests the U.S. House of the Representatives’ investigation of the Katyn massacre. According to the Polish protest, the U.S. is using Nazi propaganda to attack the Soviet Union.

Soviet Union / U.S. – March 2, 1952 (CWC)

Pravda accuses the U.S. of using biological weapons in Korea. The U.S. denies the allegations and calls for an impartial investigation.

Poland / Soviet Union / U.S. – March 4, 1952 (PSN)

The Polish press reprints the Soviet committee’s comprehensive communiqué on Katyn. According to the communiqué the Germans shot Polish prisoners in Katyn as part of their “policy of exterminating Slavic nations.”

Soviet Union – March 4, 1952 (OSA)

In the fall of 1950, a Party purge began in many republics. By late 1950, the Party

was reorganized as a result of many purges in the republics of Georgia and Latvia. Many party members seemingly neglected ideological issues to concentrate on economic activities. During the 1950 election, the first change was made: the Supreme Council was transformed to obey central authority.

Albania – March 4, 1952 (OSA)

A Vatican source alleges that Koco Papaproko of the *Zeri i Populitt* newspaper in Valona strongly criticized the Communist Party in the village of Hoshetime. Information from Greece suggests that this led to the expulsion and arrest of five members of the Party, charged with “giving help to the people’s enemies.” This information is unconfirmed.

Hungary – March 4, 1952 (OSA)

On the Southern Hungarian borders, dozens of “kulak” families (rich peasants) considered politically unreliable by Hungarian authorities are being deported on trucks. The official in charge of deportations is major János Kurta of the ÁVH. These families bring with themselves many pieces of furniture, but some of them are stolen. Some truck drivers refuse to do this. Major Kurta is accused of merciless behavior. Specifically, he seems especially interested in precious mats.

Soviet Union – March 4, 1952 (OSA)

Soviet soldiers are an upper class of well-educated, well-dressed, and tidy people. On the one hand, the dependents of soldiers differ from other people by appearance, manners, and living standards. On the other hand, conscripted soldiers are different. They have to obey strict rules. They are not allowed to go to pubs or bars. Citizens barely see any conscripted soldiers in restaurants. Civilian Communists enjoy special treatment anywhere they go, and their income is the highest in the Soviet Union.

Romania – March 4, 1952 (PIR)

Members of the Political Bureau discuss the dismissal of Vasile Luca from the position of Minister of Finance.

Yugoslavia / Ethiopia – March 4, 1952 (KCA)

Yugoslavia and Ethiopia establish full diplomatic relations, agreeing to exchange missions at legation level.

Soviet Union – March 6, 1952 (KCA)

In a meeting of the Supreme Soviet, Finance Minister Zverev presents the Soviet Budget for 1952-53 providing for the expenditure of some 476.9 billion rubles and a revenue of 508.8 billion rubles, giving an estimated surplus of 31.9 billion rubles.

Hungary / GDR– March 7, 1952 (HC)

An East German-Hungarian long-term trade agreement is signed for 1952-1955.

Hungary – March 9, 1952 (HC)

The 60th birthday of Mátyás Rákosi is celebrated. At the Hungarian Workers' Movement Institution an exhibition is opened called "the combative life of Mátyás Rákosi". A prose and poetry anthology ('Hungarian writers about Mátyás Rákosi') is published as "a present of the Hungarian writers".

Romania – March 9, 1952 (KCA/PIR)

A Bucharest announcement states that Vasile Luca, Deputy Premier and Minister of Finance, has been relieved of his duties as Minister of Finance and is to be replaced by Dimitru Petrescu, without any official explanation.

General Iosif Iacobici, former head of the Military High Command and Minister of National Defense (1941), dies in the Aiud prison.

Hungary – March 9, 1952 (OSA)

A Hungarian worker reports that it is difficult to find books in Hungary, especially for the poor. The Arrow Crosses and later the Soviets burnt many books. You can find Lenin's and other Bolshevik books, but they are difficult to understand. One can buy pulp or horror fiction on the black market. This literature is forbidden, and one can be fined for reading it. Generally, the worker reports that Bolshevik propaganda is not successful, because it is too complicated and uninteresting.

Soviet Union / GDR / FRG / France / UK / US – March 10, 1952 (PLC)

A Soviet note to the Western Great Powers proposes the conclusion of a German peace treaty, creating a united, neutral, demilitarized Germany. In reality, the plan offers no new elements and is mostly aimed at preventing the integration of the FRG in the Western alliance system.

Soviet Union / France / U.S. – March 10, 1952 (LBC)

The U.S. and France restrict the movement of Soviet diplomats. U.S. authorities forbid 239 Soviet citizens to leave a 25-mile radius of Washington and New York. The measure does not involve the 144 Soviet diplomats assigned to the U.N. – *May I*. The U.S. announces that the US passport is valid to the Soviet bloc if the visit is pre-approved by the State Department.

Soviet Union / Italy – March 11, 1952 (KCA)

Italy and the Soviet Union sign a new trade agreement for the year 1952, replacing the three-year trade agreement of **December 1948** that expired in **December 1951**.

Albania – March 11, 1952 (OSA)

According to a "reliable Vatican source," the Jesuit Father Markovic in Scutari asks the Vatican to help catholic priests in forced labor camps, including Fathers Gardin and Lulli. Markovic assists the spiritual leader of the Church, Sereqi, who is blind. Their residence, the Pontifical Seminary, was requisitioned by the Communists, so Sereqi and Markovic must live privately and require a "party man" to access church daily. However, this is unconfirmed.

Albania – March 11, 1952 (OSA)

According to a Vatican source, “Communist terror” grows in Albania. Nationalists and Titoists fill prisons in Tirana, Iycsum, Korrche, Berat, and the concentration camp in Nodovic.

Yugoslavia / Italy / Trieste – March 11, 1952 (NBT)

The Italian Government proposes a plebiscite to take place immediately in Trieste under international supervision by disinterested states. Yugoslavia on **28 March** refuses the plebiscite under such conditions.

Hungary – March 11, 1952 (OSA)

According to a secret military agreement between Hungary and the Soviet Union, Hungary must host “international brigades” on its territory. Ten thousand soldiers are in Hungary by March 1952, but they should be 15,000 by the end of the year. Members of International Brigades, differently from partisans, are not separated by nationality. The International Brigade is a corps of the Cominform countries, while partisans belong to a single Socialist country.

Hungary – March 12, 1952 (OSA)

Panic arises in Hungary because the Soviet Union declares that in case of a regime change in Hungary, and in case the USSR was forced to abandon the country, the USSR would close its borders to refugees. The reason for this choice is unclear: perhaps, the USSR fears wrecking elements may enter the USSR this way. Hungarian Communists are especially scared since they hoped they could at least save their life in the USSR in case of defeat.

Hungary – March 14, 1952 (REV)

In the trial of the young workers of Csepel and Benedictine students, the Supreme Court, on appeal, sentences Ádám Magasházy and Ernő Sallay to death, as well as 21 associates to prison for 3–15 years for armed conspiracy to overthrow the People’s Republic. The death sentences are carried out in May.

Romania – March 14, 1952 (PIR)

The Central Committee of PMR decides on the introduction of pioneer ranks and militaristic gradations, as distinctive signs for the leadership collectives of pioneer units and detachments.

Poland - March 14, 1952 (OSA)

Military service in Poland is extended for the class called up in the autumn of 1949. Even though this is considered contrary to the law, this gives Marshall Konstanty Rokossowskij a considerable strength of men under arms.

Albania – March 14, 1952 (OSA)

Recent refugees claim that the Soviet military in Albania is led by Colonel

Sokolov, whilst military and civilian missions are supervised by the Soviet minister in Tirana, Cuvakin.

Albania / Hungary – March 14, 1952 (OSA)

Various sources confirm the export of chrome ore from Albania to Hungary via Trieste and Constanta, chartered by Hungarian agents. They reach Hungary by the Danube.

Hungary / Soviet Union – March 15, 1952 (HC)

The Soviet Council of Ministers gives the Stalin Prize to Tamás Aczél for his novel titled *A szabadság árnyékában* (“In the shadow of freedom”) and to Sándor Nagy for his short story titled *A megbékélés* (“Reconciliation”). The prizes are awarded at the Soviet Embassy in Budapest on **October 25**.

Yugoslavia – March 15, 1952 (PVC)

President Tito delivers a speech in front of the representatives of the Students' Association. He speaks mainly about the Yugoslav economy and states that trade with the West cannot be conditional.

Albania – March 15, 1952 (OSA)

An unconfirmed Vatican source outlines semi-annual political-technical courses established in January 1952 and attended by 2,300 young people. Additionally, ninety-five clubs for ideological education are opened in Korrcë.

Albania – March 15, 1952 (OSA)

An Italian crewman observes that the Soviet vessel “Timiriasev,” from Poti, was put in at Durazzo in February. 14 high-ranking Soviet interior officers disembarked in plain clothes, apparently in order to train Albanian political police. The vessel then left for Gdynia.

Soviet Union/ Albania – March 17, 1952 (OSA)

The Soviet Union establishes a large refinery in Albania which covers 200 hectares, and which can store naphtha, petrol, heavy oil, etc., for vessels and submarines. Thanks to this refinery, the Soviet Union does not have to return to the Black Sea to refuel in case of conflict.

Albania – March 17, 1952 (OSA)

A source in Trieste claims squadrons of Soviet bombers and jet fighters are stationed in the airfields of Scutari, Tirana, and Valona. The existence of planes is verifiable.

Albania – March 18, 1952 (OSA)

Purportedly, a recent report sees Albania’s Communist Party as organized into the Secretary-General (Enver Hoxha), Politburo, Central Committee of the Party, 26 District Central Committees, and Communist “Organizata Basa” in all settlements.

District Committees have a president, secretary, and section chiefs, with the former appointed by the Tirana Central Committee and the latter self-selected. These Committees have various sections, including one for personnel (apparently involving informers and agents). These sections heavily influence a district government (Exekutiv Komteti). A Communist history and Russian school were opened in one of King Zog's palaces in 1949: attendance is compulsory for Party and district officials. The Party's structure is seen elsewhere but is itself unconfirmed.

Albania – March 18, 1952 (OSA)

An unconfirmed source alleges that the number and importance of Soviet doctors in Albania rapidly increases. To train Albanian doctors in "Soviet methods," a monthly special pamphlet on medicine and surgery is published by Soviet doctors and translated into Albanian. Special courses in surgery are also to be organized in major towns.

Albania – March 19, 1952 (OSA)

A Vatican agency alleges that the head of Albania's police is sent to a Siberian labor camp for "negligence" when a Soviet Legation in Tirana was sabotaged. The Soviets control all aspects of life, especially towards the control of the Party. However, Albanian Communists are resisting Soviet advice to eliminate nationalist attitudes while anti-Communist opposition, exploiting pamphlets and Cominform's preoccupation with Titoism, is strong.

Albania – March 19, 1952 (OSA)

A tradesman in Bari alleges that 600 Soviet policepersons (75 of Albanian origin) serve alongside 10,000 Albanian State Security personnel, though this is unconfirmed.

Yugoslavia / Italy – March 20, 1952 (KCA)

Italian citizens in Trieste participate in large scale demonstrations that fuel disturbances during the following week in which 200 people are injured.

Soviet Union – March 20, 1952 (OSA)

Durres receives a large number of Soviet unusable machines, since they are very old and have been used for years. The Stalin factory director sends a report to Tirana, but the authorities cannot do anything about it.

Albania – March 20, 1952 (OSA)

A November 1951 report of the Bishop of Pulti outlines Albania's religious situation. The population is 69% Muslim, 18% Orthodox, and 13% Catholic. Many Catholic episcopacies and archiepiscopacies are vacant, and two bishops were shot between 1945-51 and another died in prison. Dozens of priests, Jesuits, and Franciscans have been shot, died in prison, were deported, or were sentenced to forced labor. 100/233 churches have been requisitioned by the government. On

June 26, 1951, the supreme Praesidium “imposed” a new statute on the Albanian Catholic Church, considering it autocephalous. The Church is now subject to the republic as well as divine laws, priests have a duty of inspiring temporal devotion, and the government commits to subsidizing the National Church. None of the episcopates attended the signing of the statute, resulting in a boycott by priests. Nonetheless, the Supreme Soviet approved it on August 3.

GDR / Soviet Union - March 20, 1952 (OSA)

Seemingly, a group of about 110 former German naval officers and seamen pass through Odessa in mid-January en route to the Far East. The group was recruited in East Germany by the Communists. According to the informant, this is the second group of former German naval personnel to pass through Odessa for the Far East since July 1951.

Czechoslovakia / Israel – March 23, 1952 (KCA)

The Israeli Foreign Minister announces that Mordecai Oren, one of the leaders of the left-wing (Socialist) *Mapam* Party, has been arrested in Prague by the Czechoslovak authorities on charges of having committed “crimes against the security of the State.”

Yugoslavia / Italy / U.K. – March 24, 1952 (KCA)

Prime Minister Eden of Britain meets with Italian Ambassador Brosio maintaining Britain’s stance on the tripartite declaration.

Yugoslavia / Austria – March 24, 1952 (OEH)

Yugoslavia enters into a protocol with Austria on the common utilization of the water power of the River Drava.

Poland / Canada – March 25, 1952 (KCA)

The Polish Government hands a note to the Canadian Legation in Warsaw demanding the return of Polish cultural and art treasures that had been handed to the Canadian Government for safe-keeping during the war years.

Soviet Union / U.S. / FRG / GDR – March 25, 1952 (CWC)

The U.S. answers the Soviet note of **March 10**, stating that the Americans want all-German free elections to occur before any meeting of foreign ministers can happen.

Yugoslavia / Italy / Trieste / U.K. / U.S. – March 25-27, 1952 (KCA)

Mass demonstrations of an anti-American and anti-British sentiment take place in Rome, Milan, and Naples because of the Trieste situation.

Yugoslavia / Italy – March 26, 1952 (KCA)

The Allied Military Government announces that local elections in Trieste will be held on the same day as in Central and Southern Italy.

Hungary – March 27, 1952 (HC)

Decree 24/1952 by the Council of Ministers announces that a Fine Arts Fund will be founded in order to support the creative work of Hungarian artists.

Yugoslavia / Italy / Trieste / U.S. / U.K. – March 27, 1952 (NBT)

The British Foreign Office makes it known that the British, American, and Italian Governments have decided "to examine jointly arrangements in Zone A of the Free Territory of Trieste". The announcement causes a violent reaction among the Yugoslavs. **March 29-30:** Great mass demonstrations take place in Belgrade, Zagreb, Ljubljana and other cities.

East Germany—March 28, 1952 (OSA)

Refugees to West Germany bring reports that in Frankfurt there have been rising rates of Soviet officers breaking and entering, robbing and in some cases raping residents and resisting arrest. Often residents are too afraid to report the incidents, much less who perpetrated them as they would be open to being charged of defaming the Red Army. These incidents are usually blamed on Polish soldiers stealing and wearing Red Army uniforms by the leadership of the Red Army.

Albania / Bulgaria – March 29, 1952 (OSA)

An Allied agency reports that corresponding with an influx of Bulgarians into Albania, Bulgarian ships in Albanian ports have multiplied. Reports of a Bulgarian takeover are allegedly exaggerated, with no signs of the Soviet mission preparing to depart.

Albania – March 31, 1952 (KCA)

Addressing a Congress of the Albanian Communist Party, Albanian Prime Minister Enver Hoxha discloses that 5,996 persons, roughly 8% of the total members, were recently expelled from the party in a campaign to "improve the quality of party membership at the expense of numerical growth".

Yugoslavia / Italy / Trieste – March 31, 1952 (KCA)

Tito addresses the Yugoslav Assembly, reiterating Yugoslavia's demand for full participation on any settlement of the Trieste question, rejecting Italy's claim for the free territory, and warning the Western Powers that their attitude towards Trieste might lose them the support of the Yugoslav people.

April 1952

Poland / Italy - April 1952 (OSA)

The Italo-Polish Association is founded in Rome, dealing with the cultural relations between Italy and Poland. Professor Donini Ambrogio coordinates the association, while the Italian Communist painter Pizzinato prepares Polish participation in the International Biennial Arts' Exhibition in Venice.

Poland / East Germany - April 1952 (OSA)

Reportedly, Poland and East Germany try to push West European firms out of the Scandinavian market by lowering prices, in order to increase their northern export base.

Bulgaria / Turkey – April 1952 (OSA)

Trade between Turkey and Bulgaria regarding the exchange of goods resumes, after a break-in 1950. A list of specific imports and exports is provided by the report.

Poland – March-April 1952 (PSN)

In honor of Bierut's 60th birthday on **April 18**, Poland begins celebrations to reinforce his “cult of personality”. In late **March 1952** workers at the State Wagon Factory are exonerated to hold a “socialist competition to honor the birthday of our beloved leader and teacher”.

Yugoslavia – April 1, 1952, (JVJ)

The Yugoslav Parliament passes a law on local self-management.

Hungary – April 1, 1952 (OSA)

Hungary has yet to approve its 1952 production plan, especially for the light and middle-size industry. Hungary is waiting for approval from Moscow, which has to decide how much to reduce production for civilian usage to the benefit of military production. According to experts, the continuous modification of plans is detrimental to production.

Czechoslovakia / Bulgaria – April 2, 1952 (OSA)

In January 1952, 15 Bulgarian families of Agricultural workers are transported in Ceske Budejovice and are given abandoned houses. In case this program succeeds, more Bulgarians are planned to be transferred to Czechoslovakia as agricultural workers. According to the bilateral agreement between Czechoslovakia and Bulgaria signed in 1947, around 6000 Bulgarian agricultural workers are permitted to work in Czechoslovakia.

Hungary – April 2, 1952 (HC)

The first issue of *Esti Budapest* (“Evening Budapest”), the newspaper of the Hungarian Workers’ Party and the Budapest City Council, is published.

Soviet Union / U.S. – April 2, 1952 (KCA)

At a press conference U.S. Secretary of State Dean Acheson comments on the responses given by Stalin on the international situation on **April 1**, dismissing them as nothing more than broad generalizations of no special significance.

Soviet Union /Eastern Germany / Poland – April 3, 1952 (OSA)

During the first two weeks of March 1952, around 40 railways cars transported Soviet tanks towards the North of East Germany. According to the informant, large

convoys went from North to South in Lower Silesia. These convoys consist of 10 to 20 trucks each. They are covered with tarpaulin, and each carries five soldiers.

Hungary – April 3, 1952 (HC)

The construction of the Diósgyőr foundry is completed.

Soviet Union / Cuba – April 3, 1952 (KCA)

The Soviet Chargé d’Affaires in Havana informs the Cuban Government that the USSR has decided to break its diplomatic relations with Cuba because Soviet diplomatic couriers had been refused admission to the country on **March 21**.

Hungary – April 3, 1952 (OSA)

Hungarian fairs change radically. One can no longer sell cattle because all cattle are bought by the Meat Distribution Company. Laws are passed not to ill-treat pigs while they are sold, and lawbreakers are fined.

Czechoslovakia – April 4, 1952 (OSA)

On November 12, 1951, 250 priests who were confined in the labor camp of Podolinec (Slovakia) were taken to Jachymov, where they are forced to work in uranium mines and wear attires which are marked with white cross on the back. Another 150 priests were transported from Plavecke Podhradi and were taken to an unknown destination.

Czechoslovakia – April 5, 1952 (OSA)

Due to the increase in food prices and decrease in monthly wages the workers in small arms factory located in Brno decided to start a strike, which lasted from March 8 to March 10. According to new measures issued by the government the new wages would be reconsidered based on the 1951 production, which means a decrease of wages by 15%. Due to this issue, the workers’ committee and several party activists send a telegram to Prague to protest against this unfair measure. Some of the communist party members are arrested because of these strikes. They were blamed for not being able to avoid the protests and strikes organized by the workers.

Poland / Soviet Union – April 5, 1952 (PSN)

An agreement is signed between Poland and the Soviet Union on the construction, at the expense of the Soviets, of a thirty-story palace of science and culture to house the Academy of Sciences in Warsaw.

Soviet Union / FRG / GDR / France / UK / US – April 6, 1952 (KCA)

The Soviet response to the Western Powers’ note of **March 25** concerning preparations for a German peace treaty is presented to the Western Ambassadors in Moscow. It rejects the Western proposal that the special U.N. Commission on Germany should “verify the existence of conditions” for holding all-German elections on grounds that the U.N. Charter precludes United Nations “interference,”

and instead suggests that the question of all-German elections should be studied by a four-Power commission.

Hungary – April 7, 1952 (OSA)

Letters are written from Hungary to foreign countries usually contain only personal information and try to avoid any negative comment towards the Socialist regime. Exceptionally, one 75 years-old man writes a negative letter, where he complains about the economic and political situation. He and many other people are deprived of their pensions, many are deported and die. The Hungarian Constitution guarantees the right to housing, freedom of speech, and press, but only on paper.

Hungary – April 8, 1952 (HC)

Decree 28/1952 by the Council of Ministers announces that from **May 1** all workers hired will need an official contract.

GDR / Poland / Sweden / Finland / Denmark - April 8, 1952 (OSA)

According to an export house on Swedish, Finnish, and Danish markets, Eastern Germany and Poland are trying to push West European firms out of the Scandinavian market by undercutting prices. The Scandinavian import firms are hesitating to accept favorable offers from Poland and the GDR.

Albania – April 11, 1952 (KCA)

It is officially announced in Tirana that four members of the Cabinet have been dismissed and transferred to other duties, but no reason is given for their dismissal.

Soviet Union / U.S. – April 12, 1952 (LBC)

The East-West trade conference in Moscow comes to an end, where they concluded or started talks on deals worth \$250-300 million.

Hungary – April 16, 1952 (OSA)

The Hungarian army chooses to use trucks made in Hungary. This choice is likely since foreign trucks (Chevrolet, Dodge, Dmc) need spare parts which are difficult to obtain from Western countries. The army plans to hand over the old foreign trucks to civil companies progressively, as the new trucks come. However, also the production of the new Hungarian trucks is having problems with spare parts.

Hungary - April 16, 1952 (OSA)

Soviet troops keep 34 military stores in Hungary. They are frequent especially between Budapest and Záhony, where nine underground stores are located. They are protected and marked with signs standing five kilometers far away. Military roads bring close to these stores, but the stores are usually located 200-300 meters away from the roads, in forests. These stores contain different kinds of fuel. Usually, one store contains six 60-ton reservoirs.

Hungary – April 16, 1952 (OSA)

A Hungarian émigré who used to work in a Hungarian pastry factory reports that ice cream has become extremely popular in Hungary, substituting the lollipop. Ice cream is popular because in its freezing state it does not melt immediately under the sun. This British invention is popularized in Hungary by Vajda. However, the poor production process causes problems to workers, who have to handle freezing ice cream without protection 11 hours a day, and thus get sore hands.

Poland – April 19, 1952 (PLC)

In Poland the PAX Association is formed as an organization for loyal religious officers (“patriotic priests”). In 1957 the organization receives five seats in the Polish Parliament.

Hungary / Yugoslavia – April 19, 1952 (PVC)

In its latest note to Yugoslavia, Hungary accuses its southern neighbor of eighteen deliberate violations of Hungarian airspace.

Poland / Czechoslovakia / Egypt - April 21, 1952 (OSA)

Forty cases packed with war materiel and ammunition are allegedly sent by Czechoslovakia to Egypt passing from the port of Gdynia. The cases are labeled as if containing chinaware and manage to reach Egypt without being discovered.

Soviet Union /Estonia – April 23, 1952 (OSA)

The building activities in the Tapa rayon are arranged through telephone. This explains why in 1951, only 64% of the repair plans were fulfilled, and only 37% of the building plan. In conclusion, it turned out that using the telephone for organizational purposes is not beneficial for either contractors or citizens.

Hungary – April 24, 1952 (HC)

Decree 1009/1952 by the Council of Ministers announces that the agricultural cooperatives must be consolidated, and work discipline must be strengthened.

Poland – April 24, 1952 (PSN)

A decree abolishes independent foundations. Their property is nationalized without indemnities.

Hungary – April 24, 1952 (OSA)

Incredible bureaucracy and inefficiency are reported in Hungary, especially when dealing with foreign citizens, or with Hungarians who also are citizens of other countries. One example is given about Jenő Lebovits, who had escaped to Czechoslovakia from Hungarian Fascism. Since he left all his documents in Czechoslovakia when coming back to Hungary, he had to re-marry his wife in Hungary, but he had problems in having his marriage and his children officially recognized.

Hungary – April 28, 1952 (OSA)

A Hungarian housewife who escaped to the West complains about the situation in Hungary, saying that it is very difficult to feed a family, especially if there is only one breadwinner. Specifically, this woman's husband was a fugitive, and she was forced to take care of her children alone. She used to have a tavern, but authorities closed it down. So, she had to pawn all she had and take another job. She also complains she could not wear fashionable clothes, since "fashion" itself died.

GDR / Soviet Union / France – April 29, 1952 (KCA)

Two Soviet fighters attack and damage a French passenger airliner engaged on a routine flight from Frankfurt to Berlin while flying in the air corridor established by the four-Power agreement for flights across the Soviet Zone. The Western Commandants in Berlin send a note of protest to General Chuikov, the Soviet Commander in Chief. The Soviets counter by saying that the plane was out of the air corridor and ignored requests to land.

Albania / Romania – April 29, 1952 (OSA)

Refugee crewmembers of a Greek vessel claim that the exportation of Romanian oil to Albania continues despite scarcity, conflicting with Albania's status as an oil-producing country. This could be a bureaucratic error or part of the preparation of Albania for military operations but is probably because Albania currently lacks oil refineries.

GDR / Soviet Union / France – April 30, 1952 (KCA)

The Western Commandants send a further note to Chuikov, maintaining that the plane was in fact within the corridor, denouncing the attack by the Soviet fighters as "brutal and unjustifiable." The French Cabinet launches a protest against the Soviet Embassy in Paris and the four-Power Commission in Berlin.

GDR / Soviet Union / Czechoslovakia / Poland - April 30, 1952 (OSA)

Reportedly, the extension of an invitation to the East German Communist Party is discussed during Cottwald's Berlin visit. Before that, at the beginning of April 1952, there was a supposedly secret conference of some members of Cominform, where they discussed the German problem in general and the Soviet proposal of the creation of a German army in particular. The meeting was supposedly attended by Suslow, a member of the Soviet Politburo who had to present the Kremlin's point of view. From what is known, the Soviets propose East Germany to join the Cominform because it would allow the Soviets more control over the country, and it might bring about a reconciliation between the Germans on the one hand, and between the Czechs and Poles on the other.

Hungary – April 30, 1952 (HC)

Decree 1010/1952 by the Council of Ministers announces the establishment of the Lenin Institute at the Eötvös Loránd University in order to educate Russian-speaking officials.

Hungary – April, 1952 (HC)

The movie *Ütközet békében* (“Battle in peace”) directed by Viktor Gertler is first shown.

May 1952

Poland / Brazil - May 1952 (OSA)

Underground activities of the Polish Legation in Rio de Janeiro are reported. A Communist bulletin is smuggled in by clandestine organizations. When the affair comes to light, a debate takes place in the Brazilian Senate.

Hungary – May 1952 (OSA)

The Stakhanovite movement has been active in Hungary since 1949. The movement is not popular in Hungary, since it includes only 2.5% of the working class. Its members are granted various social privileges. According to the Hungarian Workers’ Party, this figure is far from its desires. Average workers are discontent, also because technicians are paid better than they are. The Stakhanovite movement was meant to increase production but does not seem to be successful.

Poland – May 1952 (PSN)

The provincial court in Lodz tries by summary procedure persons accused of stealing fabrics from railway transports. The main defendant in the trial, Jan Podrolewicz, is sentenced to death.

Bulgaria – May 2, 1952 (KCA)

Vladimir Poptomov, Bulgarian Deputy Premier and former Foreign Minister, dies.

Hungary – May 5, 1952 (OSA)

The Hungarian IBUSZ Travel Agency prepares posters advertising holidays on the Balaton lake, the “Hungarian Sea.” According to the posters, lodging costs from 80 to 100 forints per day, but these prices are too high for the state-employed. Therefore, this advertisement may be seen as propaganda.

GDR / Soviet Union / Poland - May 6, 1952 (OSA)

The Cominform has sent their agent Aleksander Malecki to the Polish Legation. Malecki’s official title is “First Legation Secretary,” but his actual duty is to choose trustworthy Polish Communists to penetrate all anti-Communist Polish organizations in Germany.

Soviet Union – May 8-July 18, 1952 (PLC)

At the end of the trial of the Jewish Antifascist Committee the Soviet Military Court sentences 13 out of the 14 defendants to death.

Yugoslavia / Italy / Trieste / U.K. / U.S. – May 9, 1952 (KCA/NBT)

The London discussions, which started on **April 3**, aimed at associating Italy more

with the administration of the Anglo-American Zone A of Trieste conclude with a Memorandum of Understanding, subsequently called the First London Agreement.

Bulgaria – May 11, 1952 (KCA)

The Bulgarian Government issues a decree for a drastic currency reform under which the Bulgarian *leva* is devalued and attached to the Soviet ruble, “terminating the dependence of the Bulgarian currency system on the unstable U.S. Dollar.” To counterbalance the devaluation, other decrees are issued abolishing the food rationing system and reducing the price of those foodstuffs previously subject to rationing.

Yugoslavia / Italy / Trieste – May 11, 1952 (NBT)

Tito voices Yugoslavia's reaction to the London Agreement in his speech in Zrenjanin, denouncing it as a "gross violation of the Italian Peace Treaty" and a "shameful injustice to Yugoslavia."

GDR / Soviet Union / FRG – May 12, 1952, (KCA)

General Secretary Ulbricht warns Chancellor Adenauer from signing the impending agreements with the West, saying that if he does, all West German parliamentary officials will be “blacklisted” and “suitably punished” one day.

GDR / Soviet Union / Finland / Sweden - May 12, 1952 (OSA)

Dagens Nyheter, the largest Swedish daily paper, publishes a story in April 1952 about 20 East-German Volkspolizei that landed in Sweden and later were helped by local Swedes to disguise themselves as Finnish tourists. According to the informants, this is an example of an increasing “export” of Communist agents to the Middle East area. Most of the East Germans involved in this case are said to be members of General Rommel’s former Afrikakorps, who made good contacts with local Middle Eastern extremists. Their purpose is to increase organized resistance against local governments.

Romania - May 12, 1952 (OSA)

According to an ex-official of the Romanian Ministry of the interior, despite the hard effort by the government to crack down on anyone spreading the news about “strikes,” Romania still grapples with continuous strikes. Seemingly, the strikes are not a result of coordinated action by the resistance groups but in fact “spontaneous.” By they are caused by the devastating situation of the workers. These workers are willing to risk being put in forced labor camps, and at times to death, to increase their standard of living.

GDR / Soviet Union – May 13, 1952 (KCA)

The Western Powers’ reply to the latest Soviet note regarding German unification is presented in Moscow. Its principle points communicate that the Western Governments are ready to begin negotiations on German unification, the election of a free all-German Government, and the conclusion of a peace treaty with that

Government; that they prefer the inquiry on Germany be held by the U.N Commission and not a four-Power commission but are also willing to consider alternate options; and that they will not be deflected from establishing a European Defense Community including the Federal Republic of Germany.

Yugoslavia / U.K. / U.S. – May 13, 1952 (KCA)

The Yugoslav Government issues an *aide-mémoire* against the decisions of the London Conference to British and U.S. diplomatic representatives in Belgrade.

Yugoslavia – May 15, 1952 (KCA)

The Yugoslav Military Government announces a series of measures designed to create closer ties between Trieste and Yugoslavia.

Hungary – May 15, 1952 (OSA)

The Hungarian Communist Party tries to extend its influence on society, also taking a more active role in the education of children. Parents can dedicate little time to their children because they are often busy working long hours in underpaid jobs. They have to attend many extra activities, also on weekends: Party schools, meetings, seminars, etc. Children also have to take part in social activities, but because of this parents and children may spend little time together.

East Germany/West Germany—May 16, 1952 (OSA)

Manoeuvres and exercises by the Volkspolizei were observed in the forest between Erfurt and Meischendorf with uses of machine guns and grenade launchers. In response Spring manouvers were held by 20,000 Soviet forces in Weissenpeis.

Yugoslavia / U.K. – May 17, 1952 (PVC)

The British Embassy in Belgrade reports on Tito's latest speeches delivered at Kaprina and Zrenjanin. In both speeches, Tito emphasizes the importance of "brotherhood and unity" and the power of the Yugoslav army.

Hungary – May 18, 1952 (HC)

Decree 1015/1952 by the Council of Ministers announces that entrance exams will be established at all universities and colleges.

Poland / Soviet Union - May 19, 1952 (OSA)

It is reported that a Soviet delegation headed by Minister Karawajew G.A. arrived in Warsaw to supervise the construction of the "Palace of Culture and Art".

Czechoslovakia - May 20, 1952 (OSA)

Right before the Christmas of 1951, the socio-economic situation became seriously tense in Czechoslovakia, which was mostly due to several reasons:

1. Customary Christmas bonuses were given to only a small amount of chosen people

2. The elimination of extra ration cards for “heavy industrial workers”
3. The increased and expensive prices of luxury items.

Due to these reasons, protests took place in several parts of Czechoslovakia, such as Brno, Trebic, Kladno, and Ostrava.

GDR / Soviet Union – May 21, 1952 (KCA)

The East German National Front Committee issues a statement accusing the Western Powers of “provocations” along the zonal frontier, declaring that it has become “unavoidably necessary” for East Germany to form its own army.

Czechoslovakia – May 21, 1952 (OSA)

Deputies of MNV and ONV, with assistance from the police and area secretaries, often perform controls in villages. They mostly search residential houses, granaries, and farm buildings. Even for the slightest misdeeds people get arrested and must pay heavy fines.

Hungary – May 22, 1952 (HC)

The National Theater in Budapest presents *Az ozorai példa* (“The example of Ozora”), a play by Gyula Illyés.

Soviet Union / Hungary – May 22, 1952 (OSA)

Before being arrested, a 23-year-old biochemist used to attend a Budapest university in 1949. He was intelligent. He sacrificed his family, who were opponents of the Communist regime. He showed his loyalty to the Communist regime and successfully earned a scholarship to study in the Soviet Union. Returning from the Soviet Union, he confessed that he hated Communism. After that, he is arrested while trying to escape to Austria.

Soviet Union / Ethiopia – May 24, 1952 (OSA)

Addis Abeba becomes a hotspot of Communist activities, especially after the appointment of the USSR Minister to Addis Abeba. Soviet diplomats frequently travel by plane between the Ethiopian capital and Cairo. A huge number of visitors, such as Kharitonov, Dolinov, Chikov, etc., travel to Addis Abeba with heavy trunks and bulging bags.

Romania – May 25, 1952 (OAS)

During the first week of April 1952, a group of Romanian militiamen is formed to locate the base of an important resistance group. The resistance group is apparently made up of Uniat Catholic priests, and is reportedly hiding in the Pagaras mountains. However, the mission comes to an end without reaching the intended goal.

Soviet Union / GDR / FRG / France / UK / US – May 25, 1952 (KCA)

The series of note exchanges between the Soviet Union and the Western Powers

continues as the Soviet Union replies to the Western note of **May 13**. The note, divided into three sections, protests the Western Powers' desire to delay the conclusion of a peace treaty on German unification. It also denounces contractual agreements between the Western Powers and the Federal Republic of Germany, and again proposes the immediate meeting of the four powers. The Soviets reiterate that these meetings should be based on the Potsdam Agreement, that the Oder-Neisse frontier should be recognized as final, and that Germany should be permitted to have its own armed forces and be prohibited from entering into alliances with any countries with which it had formerly been at war.

Hungary / France / U.K. / U.S. / FRG – May 26, 1952 (HC)

The U.S., the U.K., France and West Germany sign a “separate treaty” in Bonn. This treaty fundamentally changes the relations of these countries. The Hungarian Workers’ Party protests against this treaty.

Romania – May 26, 1952 (PIR)

Session of the Political Bureau debating: the report of the party commission constituted for the investigation of the activity of the Minister of Finance and of the State Bank; Vasile Luca’s letter of protest; the dismissal of Teohari Georgescu from the position of vice-president of the Council of Ministers and that of Minister of Internal Affairs.

GDR / Soviet Union / FRG – May 26, 1952 (KCA)

Following the signing of the contractual agreements in Bonn, the East German Government takes a number of measures to “seal off” the Soviet Zone from Western Germany and to hamper communications between the Western sectors of Berlin and the Federal Republic of Germany, including the creation of a “security zone” three miles in width along the East/West border and the Baltic coast.

Romania – May 26-27, 1952 (PIR)

The Plenary of the Central Committee of PMR takes place. The Ana Pauker – Vasile Luca – Teohari Georgescu Muscovite “fractionary group” is excluded from the party. Vasile Luca is accused of having sabotaged the monetary reform, of having undermined the development of individual and collective households, and of having protected capitalist commerce. Ana Pauker is criticized for having “helped and encouraged Luca’s and Georgescu’s rightist deviations.” Teohari Georgescu’s “conciliatory attitude” had hidden a “rightist opportunistic spirit,” while he had not taken any measure against speculators. All three had allegedly lived in “an aristocratic gutter,” breaking with the masses. On the same occasion, Minister of Agriculture Vasile Vaida and Minister of Labor and Social Protection Lotar Radaceanu, are removed. The plenary also decides the reorganization of the Political Bureau by reducing the number of members from 13 to 9.

Hungary – May 27-29, 1952 (HC)

The parliament passes the Laws 1952: II., III., IV. regarding central state control, the civil penal code and questions of marriage, family and guardianship.

Romania – May 27, 1952 (PIR)

Teohari Georgescu is dismissed from his offices of Vice-President of the Council of Ministers and that of Minister of Internal Affairs. Alexandru Drăghici is released from his office of Deputy Minister in MAI, and replaced with Ion Vinte.

Romania – May 28, 1952 (PIR)

The new Minister of Internal Affairs is Alexandru Drăghici.

Romania – May 28-June 3, 1952 (KCA)

Followed by a meeting of the Romanian Workers' Party from **May 26-27**, the Romanian Government announces a number of widespread changes to the organization of the Romanian Government and the Communist Party involving the appointment of a new Prime Minister, Gheorghe Gheorghiu-Dej, and new Deputy Prime Minister, changes in the portfolio of the Interior, Labor and Agriculture, and the dismissal of several hitherto powerful members of the Cabinet from Ministerial or high party office.

Hungary – May 30, 1952 (HC)

The Operetta Theater in Budapest presents *Állami áruház* ("State department store") by János Kerekes.

Czechoslovakia – May 30, 1952 (KCA)

A Prague announcement states that Dr. Jan Sevcik, Vice-Premier and Minister for Physical Culture in the Czechoslovak Cabinet, has been expelled from the chairmanship of the Slovak Rebirth Party and dismissed from his Ministerial posts by President Gottwald, and that Jan Valek has also been expelled from his post as Secretary-General of the Slovak Rebirth Party. Both are accused of "systematic violation of the policy of the Regenerated National Front of Czechs and Slovaks and of the organizational objectives of the Slovak Rebirth Party". Also, an official announcement states that a new Ministry of Supply will be set up to take over the existing State machinery for the purchase of farm produce and of locally produced raw materials for industry.

East Germany—May 31, 1952 (OSA)

Increased numbers of personnel in Thuringian Uranium mines, with numbers estimated at 10,000, with leading engineers and management being Soviet personnel. Pitchblende mining has also dramatically increased in the area around Dortendorf, Gera and Settendorf.

Bulgaria / Soviet Union – May-June 1952 (OSA)

The rapprochement between Sofia and Moscow in the religious field begins: the

Patriarch of Moscow officially visits Bulgaria to strengthen the ties between the two Orthodox Churches. A series of telegrams are exchanged between the two on the occasion of this visit.

Poland / Sweden – May-June 1952 (OSA)

It is reported that a non-official delegation of seven members of the Swedish Trade Unions is invited to visit Poland for two weeks by the Polish Trade Unions.

June 1952

Hungary – June 1952 (OSA)

Blacksmith workshops are nationalized. The old owner may remain the manager of the workshop, but even the sign at the entrance is changed to “State Blacksmith.” In the State Blacksmith workshops, apprentices received insurance, housing, washing, and ironing facilities. However, there are complaints that in the state workshops work is done superficially, quickly, and with worse quality, and there is a lack of personal responsibility. Individual blacksmiths can still work privately.

Hungary – June 1952 (OSA)

A report claims that the Hungarian Communist Máté Zalka was killed by a GPU bomb during the Spanish Civil War. Zalka had been accused of Trotskyism and was probably let go to Spain with a plan of murdering him. Anyway, he is officially celebrated like a Communist hero. Meanwhile, Hungarian production plans are strongly raised, and Hungarian workers are called to raise production quotas out of solidarity with the arrested French Communist Duclos.

Hungary – June 1952 (OSA)

The ÁVH checks packages coming to Hungary from relatives who live in Western countries. Packages are opened at the post office, then the ÁVH convincingly asks the addressees to renounce the package. Many do so out of fear. Meanwhile, a purge is ongoing among the “Rákosites.” Approximately 200 of them are arrested by the ÁVH. Others are called from abroad, probably to purge them.

Hungary – June 1952 (OSA)

Gábor Péter, the director of the ÁVH, enters the Hungarian Politburo triumvirate, together with Ernő Gerő and József Révai. The triumvirate holds enormous power. Révai and Gerő are also NKVD members and Soviet citizens. By contrast, since June 1 Mátyás Rákosi has been de facto ousted from power and fulfills a merely symbolic, propaganda role. One can grasp his loss of power by noting that Stalin did not send him greetings for his 60th birthday.

Hungary – June 1952 (OSA)

Unconfirmed reports say that women are used by Hungarian authorities to manipulate their fiancés. When a male worker does not fulfill production quotas, his fiancée may contact the authorities and say that this is the result of bad political

consciousness. The woman in question may “beg” her man to work more actively, and thus fulfill higher production quotas. The last step may be to push the man to become a Stakhanovite, since she can marry only a Stakhanovite.

GDR / Soviet Union – June 1, 1952 (KCA)

The Soviet Government announces the appointment of Ivan Ivanovich Ilyichev as Ambassador to Eastern Germany succeeding Pushkin.

Romania – June 2, 1952 (PIR)

Gheorghiu-Dej is appointed President of the Council of Ministers, replacing Petru Groza. Gheorghiu-Dej holds the position until **October 3, 1955**.

Romania – June 2, 1952 (PIR)

A new law for the organization of justice establishes a hierarchical system based on the Supreme Popular Court, and regional and popular courts for regions, towns and districts sections. Their purpose is the defense of the “social and state order in R.P.R.” and “the merciless struggle against the enemies of labor.”

Romania / Yugoslavia – June 4, 1952 (PVC)

Romania sends a note to Yugoslavia protesting the border incidents and the deliberate violation of Romanian airspace.

Czechoslovakia / Israel – June 4, 1952 (OSA)

According to an unconfirmed source, due to the very serious anti-Semitic movement in Slovakia encouraged by the Czech government, 12 cemeteries of Jews were demolished in Slovakia in the past few months. The police still does not find the offenders.

Hungary – June 4, 1952 (OSA)

A 37-year-old Hungarian watchmaker reports the state of collectivization of watchmakers’ and jewelers’ trades. They used to be 800 before collectivization, in 1952 they were reduced to 200. Collectivization was carried out very quickly in December 1949. All watches and jewels were suddenly confiscated by the state, leaving no time for hiding. Watchmakers and jewelers were supposed to be refunded, but this did not prove easy. House searches were also ordered.

Hungary / U.S. – June 5, 1952 (LBC)

President Truman instructs the Department of Treasury to deprive Hungary of all custom benefits by **July 5**.

Hungary – June 5, 1952 (OSA)

Hungarian authorities demand the reduction of private correspondence with Western countries. The intention is clearly to push Hungarians not to have correspondence with these countries (a similar measure was taken decades before in the Soviet Union). Much correspondence is kept by authorities and clearly

censored, and is given to addresses with great delay. Officially, however, censored letters bear the words “New envelope – the previous envelope damaged.”

Hungary – June 5, 1952 (OSA)

According to refugees who escaped to Vienna, frosts in mid-May caused great damage to Hungarian agriculture, and especially to wheat, potato, grape, and vegetables. Frosts went as far as minus 4 or 5 Celsius degrees. In certain regions, as much as 100% of the wheat crops may be lost.

Romania – June 6, 1952 (OAS)

According to unconfirmed sources, on April 4, 1952 the dead body of Manea Jrigore, a militiaman, was witnessed by peasants close to Ludoj. Grigriu Alexander, a former lawyer who had sought “refuge in a friend's apartment,” was arrested in Bucharest.

Czechoslovakia – June 7, 1952 (KCA)

Prime Minister Zapotocky announces a forthcoming drastic reorganization of the Czechoslovak trade union movement, accusing the trade unions of having failed at instilling in their workers a new labor discipline based on “love of work and loyalty to the State.”

Yugoslavia – June 7, 1952 (KCA)

It is officially announced in Belgrade that the compulsory delivery of wheat and other grains at fixed low prices by peasants to the Government has been abolished with immediate effect, leaving wool as the only item required for sale to the Government.

Hungary – June 8, 1952 (HC)

The first factory of the Tisza-region Chemical Factories is installed in Tiszaszederkény (Borsod county).

Romania – June 11, 1952 (PIR)

Valeriu Traian Frențiu, Metropolitan of Blaj, dies in the *Sighet* prison.

Yugoslavia / FRG – June 11, 1952 (JVJ)

Yugoslavia signs an agreement on economic cooperation with the West German Government.

Soviet Union / U.K. – June 13, 1952 (KCA)

The Soviet Government announces the appointment of Gromyko as Ambassador to the U.K., succeeding Zarubin.

Yugoslavia – June 13, 1952 (KCA)

The Yugoslav Government issues two decrees ending Government control over the

distribution and prices of a large range of industrial goods, both imported and home-produced.

Bulgaria – June 14, 1952 (KCA)

Following the recent currency reform, new foreign exchange rates are fixed at 19.04 levas to the pound sterling and 6.8 levas to the U.S. dollar.

GDR / Soviet Union – June 16, 1952 (KCA)

Ulbricht announces that all of the political parties have “unanimously agreed to a resolution affirming the necessity for East German armed forces”.

Poland / Czechoslovakia - June 16, 1952 (OSA)

A Czechoslovakian delegation of the Ministry of Construction arrives in Warsaw, apparently in order to check on the progress made by Poland in the Construction field. The real purpose of the trip remains unknown.

Soviet Union / Sweden – June 16-24, 1952 (KCA)

The Swedish Government hands a strongly worded note of protest to the Soviet Ambassador in Stockholm regarding the shooting down of a Swedish Catalina flying-boat by two Soviet fighters earlier in the day. The Catalina was taking part in a search mission looking for a Swedish Dakota training plane that disappeared over the Baltic on **June 1** with its crew of eight.

The note demands a Soviet inquiry into the matter and states unequivocally Sweden’s right to claim damages. In its reply from **June 17** to the Swedish Government’s note, the Soviet Government accused the Swedish Catalina of a “gross violation” of Soviet territory in the area of Cape Ristna, asserting that the Catalina ignored repeated demands to land and that it had opened fire on the Soviet aircraft. **June 18:** The Swedish Government issues a note rejecting the Soviet accusations. **June 19:** The Soviet Government issues a second note, again rejecting Swedish protests and accounts as contrary to the truth. **June 22:** The Swedish Government sends a reply to the Soviet note ascertaining that the Catalina was fired at before crashing, asking whether the Soviets were responsible, and if so under what circumstances. **June 24:** The Soviet Government replies to the Swedish note demanding that the Swedish Government take measures to prevent further violations of Soviet territory by Swedish planes.

Hungary / Romania – June 17, 1952 (HC)

A Hungarian-Romanian long-term trade agreement is signed for 1953-1955.

Soviet Union – June 18, 1952 (OSA)

The discontent in the Soviet Union is being spoken out by sergeant Grigori, a Soviet officer who deserted the army. Grigori mainly focuses on the Stalinian regime. There was no improvement in the postwar years notwithstanding Soviet

victory. Workers were disrespected, and life in the Soviet Union was worse compared to Germany.

GDR / Soviet Union / FRG – June 18, 1952 (KCA)

Addressing the West German *Bundestag*, Adenauer denounces the “brutal terror” exercised by the Soviets and their East German “puppets” against inhabitants of the security zone who were evicted from their homes, announcing that 7,500 refugees have arrived in West Germany and are cared for.

Romania – June 18, 1952 (PIR)

The sanctions against the refusal to hand over the quotas are aggravated. Peasants who did not surrender their quotas are fined with a sum that “could reach twice the value of the products due.”

Bulgaria / Yugoslavia – June 18, 1952 (KCA)

The Bulgarian Government rejects three successive notes protesting the alleged **June 9** kidnapping of a Yugoslav citizen by Bulgarian authorities, from the courtyard of the Yugoslav Embassy. Subsequently, the Yugoslav Government announces the withdrawal of its entire diplomatic mission in Sofia with the exception of an attaché.

Yugoslavia / Austria – June 19, 1952 (KCA)

Austrian Foreign Minister Dr. Gruber arrives in Yugoslavia for an official visit, described by *Borba* as “a logical consequence of the steady improvement of relations between Austria and Yugoslavia”.

Yugoslavia / Austria – June 19-22, 1952 (KCA)

During his stay in Belgrade Dr. Gruber has discussions with Yugoslav Vice-Premier and Minister of the Interior General Rankovich along with other senior officials.

Romania – June 19, 1952 (PIR)

Law no.6 for the creation and organization of the Prosecutor’s office of the R.P.R. is published.

Soviet Union / U.S. – June 19, 1952 (CWC)

American Ambassador George Kennan meets with Foreign Minister Vishinsky to attempt to tone down Soviet intolerance in their “hate-America” propaganda campaign.

Hungary – June 20, 1952 (HC)

The Budapest City Council decides to rename the Horthy Bridge in the honor of the nineteenth century poet Sándor Petőfi.

Czechoslovakia / France / U.K. / U.S. / FRG – June 21, 1952 (KCA)

The Czechoslovak News Agency announces that the Czechoslovak National Assembly has sent identical letters to several Western countries protesting the British, French and U.S. Governments' contractual agreements with Western Germany and the European Defense Committee Treaty.

Hungary – June 21, 1952 (KCA)

The Hungarian Government issues a statement declaring that it refuses to “recognize the validity of the Bonn and Paris Treaties”.

Hungary – June 21, 1952 (OSA)

Mass illnesses are spreading in Hungary in the first half of 1952, especially among young physical laborers. The illnesses are especially heart-related, and according to doctors are due to excessive workload. The only cure would be proper rest, but physicians do not prescribe it. Workers can get sick leave only if they are considered at immediate life risk.

Yugoslavia / Austria – June 23-24, 1952 (KCA)

Foreign Minister Gruber visits Brioni Island as Tito's guest.

Upon his return to Vienna in an interview with the editor of *Neue Wiener Tageszeitung*, Gruber says that his discussions with Yugoslav statesmen had given a boost to Yugoslav-Austrian relations and that all practical questions between the two countries can be settled “quite easily”.

Yugoslavia / U.K. – June 25, 1952 (PVC)

Naval Commander-in-Chief of the Mediterranean Fleet, Admiral Louis Mountbatten arrives at Rijeka on Yugoslav invitation.

Romania – June 26, 1952 (PIR)

Alexandru Voitinovici, president of the incrimination panel in the trial of Ion Antonescu, is dismissed from his office as General Prosecutor of the R.P.R.

Hungary – June 26, 1952 (OSA)

A former Hungarian soldier who escaped to Austria reports that discipline is lacking in the Hungarian army. However, discipline is administered in a completely different way according to the given soldier's political and class background. A party member may be excused even for sleeping on duty, while a kulak's son may be convicted for 6 months for the same offense. A military career is open only to party members, while intellectuals performing office work are considered unreliable.

Hungary – June 28, 1952 (OSA)

Hungarian border guards working on the Western border of the country are ordered to confiscate all flowers from passengers, and they motivate the action with plant protection laws. According to Budapest authorities, these plants may import

dangerous plant illnesses or insects to the country. This move, however, may be just an excuse to raise tensions with Western countries.

Hungary / Yugoslavia / U.K. – June 30, 1952 (PVC)

The British legation in Budapest is informed of another Hungarian note to Yugoslavia, in which the Hungarians protest and accuse the Yugoslavs of 48 border incidents.

July 1952

Poland / Spain - July 1952 (OSA)

A considerable number of “International brigade” officers who fought in the Spanish Civil War are reported to be now holding important military and administrative posts in Communist Poland.

Poland - July 1952 (OSA)

In the summer the Ministry of Public Security introduces censorship of all letters and packages sent from the Polish coastal area to the inland territory. This measure aims at stopping illegal mail and rounding up saboteurs and spies.

Poland / East Germany - July 1952 (OSA)

An agreement about Germans to be admitted into Poland is signed between the East German government and Bolesław Bierut. The Warsaw government is expected to welcome 30,000 Germans - qualified mining and industrial specialists - in order to solve the shortage of skilled labor in Poland and unemployment in East Germany.

Poland - July 1952 (OSA)

Reportedly, various property of the Catholic Church is confiscated by the regime. In some cases, these measures are applied quite openly, in others they are kept secret.

Hungary – July 1952 (OSA)

The housing situation in Budapest is reported to be managed by a central organ which operates with a high degree of arbitrariness. If a presently occupied real estate is needed for a “higher” purpose, then the present renter is notified. S/he may receive compensation for leaving the property, but this compensation is usually difficult to obtain. Especially businessmen and professionals complain that they do not get proper property in exchange for the one they left.

Hungary – July 1952 (OSA)

The situation of Hungarian journalism worsens, as journalists are meant to be a mere mouthpiece of the Bolshevik/Stalinist regime, and risk prison for not complying. According to unconfirmed sources, two-thirds of Hungarian journalists cannot write anymore. Dissenting journalists may be labeled “Fascists” or

“vacillators.” Two hundred of them may be in prisons or labor camps. Some former journalists find jobs in the agricultural or industrial sector.

Hungary – July 1952 (OSA)

The Soviet Marshal Bulganin is rumored to pay a secret visit to Budapest. According to rumors, this visit may be linked to the supposed struggle going on within the Hungarian authorities. The Marshal may express the support of the Red Army for the Gerő-Révai-Péter triumvirate, which opposes Rákosi. The second quarter of the Hungarian Five-Year Plan ends without fulfilling the expected results.

Yugoslavia / France / U.K. / U.S. – July 1952 (HWC/PVC)

In talks with Tito, U.S. Assistant Secretary of Defense Frank Nash, with Allen's approval, indicates that Yugoslavia can expect some additional military aid from the West. Tito replies that while he does not wish to enter into military discussion with NATO, he does welcome the participation of the British and French in discussions between the U.S. and Yugoslavia in various strategic and operational questions.

Czechoslovakia / Hungary – July 1, 1952 (HC)

The Slovak central executive power decides that the Hungarian-populated southern parts of Czechoslovakia will be considered bilingual.

Bulgaria / Denmark / Romania / Sweden / U.K. – July 2, 1952 (KCA)

The British Foreign Office announces that the British Government, along with the Danish and Swedish Governments, have protested to Bulgaria and Romania against the unilateral extension of their territorial waters in the Black Sea to a distance of 12 nautical miles.

Hungary / U.N. – July 3 and July 9, 1952 (HC)

The Western powers at the U.N Security Council again vote against the suggestion to consider Hungary and 13 other countries as possible members of the U.N.

Romania – July 3, 1952 (PIR)

Prime Minister Gheorghiu-Dej requests the intensification of the campaign against kulaks: “The press must mobilize the working peasant masses to restless struggle against kulaks.”

Yugoslavia / Greece – July 4, 1952 (PVC)

A Greek parliamentary delegation arrives in Yugoslavia. Tito holds a gala dinner in honor of the delegation on **July 9, 1952.**

Romania – July 5, 1952 (KCA)

An official Bucharest announcement states that Ana Pauker has been dismissed from her post as Foreign Minister within a month of her expulsion from the Central

Committee and Politburo of the Romanian Workers' Party after being accused of "deviationism". She is succeeded by Simon Bughici.

Hungary - July 5, 1952 (OSA)

The Hungarian production of bread wheat decreases by 15% because of frost. Damage is especially severe in the Eastern regions of the country, where damage reaches even a 50% level. Forecasts are somber even for corn and grape production, which was also damaged by frost.

GDR – July 6, 1952 (KCA)

The East German Government announces that a new 300-kilowatt radio transmitter, described as the most powerful in Europe except for Moscow radio, has been completed just outside of Berlin in Kopenick.

Czechoslovakia / Romania / Soviet Union – July 6, 1952 (KCA)

Moscow radio announces that the Soviet Ambassador in Bucharest Sergei Kavtaradze has been relieved of his duties and will be succeeded by Anatoli Lavrentiev, former Ambassador to Czechoslovakia, where Alexander Bogomolov will step in.

Yugoslavia / Italy / U.K. / U.S. – July 6, 1952 (KCA)

The Allied Military Government in Trieste announces that it has approved the nomination by the Italian Government of Giovanni Augusto Vitelli as Director of Civic Affairs in implementation with the recent agreement between the U.S., Britain and Italy.

Yugoslavia – July 6, 1952 (PVC)

Tito delivers a speech at Niš. He again underlines that Yugoslavia is not going to enter any military pacts under any circumstances and refutes the charges that the abolition of peasants' compulsory delivery was a result of Western political pressure.

GDR – July 7, 1952 (KCA)

It is reported from Berlin that all business of East German radio will be directed from East Berlin using the new transmitter.

Hungary – July 7, 1952 (OSA)

Soviet troops and ammunition are crossing Hungary, both in East-West and West-East direction. Troops and ammunition travel on trains. At least one Soviet officer is present on every train. Bridges are sometimes closed at night to any other traffic to let Soviet convoys go.

Hungary – July 8, 1952 (HC)

At the national meeting of Marxism-Leninism professors it is announced that from

now on all universities and colleges will establish separate Marxism-Leninism departments.

Hungary – July 8, 1952 (OSA)

New deportations are reported at the border with Yugoslavia after similar episodes were reported in 1951. Two hundred trucks are being used. The trucks usually come to villages at night and by surprise, without previously notifying even the local Executive Councils. In one case, they come between midnight and 1 am. They force several families to pack their things and then deport them. Children are reported to be separated from their parents.

Hungary – July 8, 1952 (OSA)

Summer military drills are carried out in Hungary, lasting a few days. Citizens' freedom of movement is limited because of this, despite the active agricultural activity. Raids and police checks of civilians are common. Car traffic is sometimes blocked and moved to alternative roads.

GDR – July 9, 1952 (KCA)

East German Deputy Premier and General Secretary of the Socialist Unity Party Walter Ulbricht addresses the party's Second Congress in Berlin, making an important statement on the internal and external policy of the German Democratic Republic. He announces that the German Democratic Republic should be an example for Socialism, attacks the German Federal Republic, calls for a new Church policy in which the Church cannot "cloak itself in a shield of neutrality," proposes a complete administrative reform of East Germany, and proposes the formation of a People's Army in the country to protect itself from Western countries. After his speech, the party congress adopts an 11-point program implementing his proposals, demanding the overthrow of the Bonn Government as "a condition for the restoration of Germany," declaring that "the intensification of class struggle is inevitable."

GDR / Soviet Union – July 10, 1952 (KCA)

The Western Powers present further notes on the subject of Germany to the Soviet Government. The notes propose that there should be a four-Power meeting to discuss the first steps towards the formation of an all-German Government, including appointing a commission of impartial members to determine whether conditions for free-elections exist or not. It is suggested that the Powers meet after the commission and produce a report to discuss the holding of such elections and creating conditions for such free elections to occur where necessary.

GDR / U.S. – July 10, 1952 (LBC)

The Republican Party publishes its electoral platform on foreign policy: "The present administration in seven years squandered the unprecedented power and prestige, which were ours at the close of World War II. Administration leaders abandoned friendly nations such as Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, Czechoslovakia and

Poland... to the communist aggression which soon swallowed them.” “The supreme goal of our foreign policy will be an honorable and just peace.” The Republican administration “will repudiate all commitments of secret understandings, such as those of Yalta, which aid communist enslavement.” It will end the “containment” policy.

Hungary / Romania – July 11, 1952 (HC)

The *Ganz* Ship Factory is renamed in the honor of Gheorghe Gheorghiu-Dej, General Secretary of the Romanian Communist Party.

Romania – July 11, 1952 (PIR)

Ana Pauker is replaced with Simion Burghici at the head of the Ministry of External Affairs.

Soviet Union / U.S. – July 15, 1952 (KCA)

The State Department in Washington announces that the U.S. Embassy in Moscow has informed the Soviet Foreign Ministry that the Russian language magazine *Amerika* hitherto issued by the Embassy will be suspended and that it has requested the Soviet Government to cease publication of its Information Bulletin and other pamphlets and periodicals in the US. At the same time it is stressed that the U.S. will be happy to resume publication of *Amerika* when it is afforded the same freedom of publication, distribution and sale that had been accorded to Russian publications in the U.S.

Poland / Czechoslovakia - July 16, 1952 (OSA)

A Czech delegation of youth leaders who had just been touring Poland for an international bicycle tournament is arrested in Prague, accused of Titoist agitation and anti-Soviet propaganda.

DGR – July 17, 1952 (KCA)

The East German Government decides to submit a bill on the centralization of the administration to the *Volkskammer* “for immediate deliberation and passage.”

Czechoslovakia – July 18, 1952 (KCA)

Prague radio announces a “purge” of the Central Committee of the Czechoslovak Trade Union Federation.

Poland – July 18, 1952 (PSN)

Bierut presents the new constitution to the Diet calling both prewar constitutions a sham used by capitalists and large landowners to maintain power. He calls the democratic rights and freedoms of capitalist society a swindle.

GDR – July 19, 1952 (KCA)

The East German Ministry of the Interior refuses to issue passports to 5,000

residents of the Soviet Zones who desire to attend the session of the Lutheran World Conference to be held in Hanover towards the end of July.

Hungary – July 19-August 3, 1952 (HC)

At the Helsinki Olympics Hungary wins 16 gold, 10 silver and 16 bronze medals. This achievement allows Hungary to be the third in the unofficial competition among countries.

Hungary – July 22, 1952 (HC)

Decree 13/1952 by the Hungarian Council of Ministers announces that a Construction Industry Technical University will be founded.

Poland – July 22, 1952 (PSN)

Poland formally adopts the new constitution with a vote in the Diet. The new constitution states that Diet is the highest state authority that would choose from its ranks a Council of State responsible for interpretation and the issuance of decrees. The “Council of Ministers” was defined as the highest “executive and administrative agency.”

GDR – July 23, 1952 (KCA)

The *Volkskammer* adopts a Bill for converting East Germany into a strictly centralized Communist State.

Soviet Union – July 23, 1952 (OSA)

Soviet intrigues within the Orthodox Churches are checkmated. One reason is that the Moscow Patriarch Alexei tolerates the corrupt Rumanian Patriarch Justinian. Patriarch Alexander of Antioch – who used to be pro-Soviet - changed his mind after Alexei rejected Alexander’s advice that Justinian should be deprived of his post. Alexander believes that Justinian instigated the murder of his predecessor. Moreover, visits and letters among the four Orthodox Eastern religious centers – Istanbul, Antioch, Alexandria, Jerusalem – show increasing cordiality.

East Germany—July 23, 1952 (OSA)

Production for the year 1952, like that of 1951 was heavily orientated towards military-strategic purposes. Production for the following was: electrical steel (48%), metallurgical equipment (87%), mining equipment (101%), car and tractor production (44%), Soda ash (49%). In contrast production for consumer goods was very low for example- toghts and socks (7%), synthetic goods (4%) and fabric (2%).

Hungary – July 23, 1951 (OSA)

Serious problems are reported in the price and quality of men’s clothing. Foreign, better tissues buyable on the black market disappear, and now only Hungarian products are available. Until late 1950 one could buy good-quality men’s socks, but those which are now available get torn up after they are worn once. That is why

working men rather wear foot-bands. Only working boots are available. They are partially paper-made and get wet in the rain.

Hungary – July 23, 1952 (OSA)

A highway is built between Székesfehérvár and Komárom. Mátyás Rákosi in person inaugurates the 7-meter large highway. However, serious problems are reported: the highway sinks in several places and parts of it liquefy because of the heat. The chief engineer in charge of these parts is arrested and accused of sabotage.

Hungary – July 24, 1952 (OSA)

Letters coming to Hungary from abroad and being sent from Hungary to foreign countries are checked. Delivering times increase to two-three weeks when five days used to be enough for a letter going to a distant Western country. Letters coming from abroad are censored. They are opened, and certain words are made unreadable. They are then re-closed in a way that shows clearly that the letter was opened. They sometimes carry the “checked” sign on them.

Hungary – July 24, 1951 (OSA)

Hungarian lawyers are under political surveillance. Those in charge of the Hungarian Lawyers’ Chamber are party stalwarts who took great care of cleansing unreliable elements. Lawyers over 60 years old were kicked out, while those between 40 and 60 were strongly reduced. There are no new entries. In general, the Hungarian regime seems not to need many lawyers: their role is reduced, especially in political trials.

Hungary – July 24, 1951 (OSA)

Ödön Mikecz, a former justice minister, is reported to be expelled from Budapest and enclosed into the Jászfényszaru camp. Mikecz is imprisoned despite before 1945 he fought the influence of German Nazism in Hungary.

GDR – July 24, 1952 (KCA)

The East German Government sets up a labor corps under the name of “Service for Germany” in which boys and girls of 17 will serve for six months.

Soviet Bloc / U.S. – July 24, 1952 (LBC)

According to the official platform of the Democratic Party the U.S. “will not abandon the once-free peoples of Central and Eastern Europe...now under the Kremlin’s tyranny”. We look forward to the “liberation of the Soviet satellites and we will expand “Voice of America” programs “for penetration of the Iron Curtain, bringing truth and hope for all...subjugated by the Soviet empire”.

GDR / Soviet Bloc– July 26, 1952 (KCA)

An East German decree imposes stringent travel restrictions on those living in the Soviet Zone.

Albania / Yugoslavia – July 26, 1952 (OSA)

An unconfirmed source identifies a Moscow-controlled radio station on Albania's frontier with Yugoslavia at Shkoder.

Albania – July 26, 1952 (OSA)

An unconfirmed source claims a leader of the Albanian resistance, Kupa Dalid, surrendered to Communist authorities and informed the press of a liaison with Italian groups. Kupa is now free and aiding the government in eliminating resistance. Separately, Tirana radio station is broadcasting in Serbian twice daily, according to an Albanian evaluator.

Soviet Union – July 27, 1952 (KCA, PLC)

The "V.I. Lenin Volga-Don Ship Canal," a 63-mile canal joining the two rivers from Stalingrad on the Volga to Kalach on the Don, is opened. The White, the Baltic, the Caspian, the Azov and the Black seas are all connected by one single navigable channel.

Czechoslovakia – July 29, 1952 (KCA)

The Czechoslovak Government announces that as of **September 1**, workers will be forbidden to change their employment without official permission, and that they will not be allowed to accept new jobs except with the approval of their factory management.

Romania – 29 July, 1952 (OAS)

While the name and incident are unconfirmed, the Sanatatea bakery ex-accountant is on trial for reportedly wasting the money of the bakery. However, it seems the party does not want to acknowledge the increased wages which had come as a result of many workers surpassing the norms and being paid accordingly, therefore he was tried as a result.

Hungary / France – July 31, 1952 (OSA)

The Hungarian embassy in Paris is in fervent activity after the arrest and subsequent release of Duclos and Stil. Couriers travel between the embassy and Hungary, the embassy's personnel is increased. One former Hungarian diplomat in France is rumored to have been arrested by Hungarian authorities. Meanwhile, Hungary allegedly establishes a Soviet-like labor camp system. Prison convicts may have their terms reduced if they work in mines and construction sites.

August 1952

Yugoslavia – August 1952 (KCA)

The Journal of the Yugoslav armed forces reports that over 8,000 nationals from Cominform countries fled to Yugoslavia **between 1948 and March 21, 1952**.

Poland – August 1, 1952 (PSN)

The Diet unanimously approves the new electoral law allowing for multiple lists of candidates to be submitted with no more candidates than there are seats.

Poland / U.S. – August 5, 1952 (KCA)

The Polish Consular General in Chicago, Zygmunt Fabisiak announces that he has resigned from his post rather than obeying orders to return to Poland, and is seeking asylum from the U.S. Government.

Hungary – August 5, 1952 (OSA)

Serious, even deadly accidents are reported to take place in Hungarian mines, because of inadequate safety measures (27 deadly cases between June and July). In mines where the worst accidents take place, workers threaten to strike. The Communist Party has to admit the gravity of the situation and pushes the technicians to improve safety measures. A Chinese military mission visits Hungary. Its goal is to buy raw materials in Hungary, but also to prepare a brigade bound to Korea.

Yugoslavia – August 6, 1952 (KCA)

A Governmental decree reduces the prices of bread, flour, sugar, lard, tobacco and cigarettes and ends the rationing of coal and wood fuel.

Czechoslovakia / Ukraine / Hungary / Romania– August 6, 1952 (OSA)

At the beginning of May 1952, Soviet authorities in the Transcarpathian Ukraine began the evacuation of civilian population of Ruthenian and Hungarian origins, mainly from southern districts. The emptied farms are taken by the soviet nationals of Mongolian origin. Simultaneously, the pioneer units of the Red Army start the construction of fortifications along the mountains to secure passes which lead to Ukraine from the Hungarian and Romanian side. According to the news, the fortifications are to be ready by November of 1952.

Hungary / Yugoslavia – August 7, 1952 (PVC)

An organization of Hungarian emigrants is set up at Novi Sad with former Minister of War Béla Linder and former Hungarian MP Rob Anton among its members.

Soviet Union / U.K. – August 8, 1952 (KCA)

The British Admiralty announces that as a result of further negotiations, the USSR will shortly return to Britain the destroyers *Lincoln* and *Georgetown*, which the British Government loaned to the Soviet Union during WW II.

Hungary – August 9, 1952 (HC)

The first Hungarian Applied Art Exhibition opens at the Ernst Museum in Budapest.

GDR / FRG / Poland - August 9, 1952 (OSA)

Approximately on July 1, in East Berlin, it is banned to send telegrams to Poland in any language other than Polish. It is also no longer possible to send telegrams from West Berlin to Poland at all. In the majority of cases, the East-Berlin office does not accept telegrams from West-Berlin Post.

Hungary – August 11, 1952 (OSA)

Armor officers are trained with a high rhythm. A few military academies are established to train a high number of armor officers and noncommissioned officers. One of these academies is the Mátyás Rákosi Armor Training Academy. Most of the teaching personnel are made of Soviet officers, and the whole academy is under the strong influence of the Red Army. This academy is one of the best equipped in the country, it is well guarded and separated from the outside world.

Soviet Union / France / U.K. / U.S. – August 12, 1952 (LBC)

The disarmament proposal of the U.S., the U.K. and France is unveiled in the U.N. In response of **August 29** the Soviet representative declares that the USSR accepts its own disarmament policies only.

Hungary – August 12, 1952 (OSA)

A foreign diplomat who spends a few months in Hungary reports the bad living conditions of Hungarian peasants and workers. This is surprising because Hungarian industrial production highly increases compared to 1938. Moreover, differently from the Soviet Union, Hungary performs well in light as well as in heavy industry (though consumer goods are rumored to be meant for export). An example may be a campaign to consume onion instead of fruit and meat.

Hungary – August 12, 1952 (OSA)

A clerk who used to work for the Hungarian Ministry of Justice escapes to Austria and reports that the Ministry deals with a sort of slave labor. According to the source, the Ministry as an Economic Section manages convicted Hungarians who can be used for slave labor, and who can be assigned to perform absurd tasks. In June 1952 they amounted to 38,000. They can work in industry, in agriculture, or different state companies.

Yugoslavia – August 13, 1952 (KCA)

Belgrade announces that the Yugoslav Government has decided to reduce the obligatory contribution by five billion dinars paid from the profits of a number of industrial enterprises manufacturing consumer goods and farm requirements from their profits.

Albania / Bulgaria – August 14, 1952 (OSA)

A source claims that inter-Cominform satellite relations are reorganized, namely through Bulgaria running Albania since an April 1952 “Moscow-sponsored” treaty was signed in Tirana. The treaty, outlining “technical and scientific collaboration,”

resulted in an influx of Russian- and Albanian-speaking Bulgarian civil servants and soldiers into Albania to succeed the Soviets, from April 7 to mid-June. Civil servants serve to sustain material and agricultural production and direct delivery of said products to Soviet-directed destinations. Bulgarian soldiers supervise the “indoctrination” of Albanian forces into Marxist ideology and seek to prevent army revolts (since the recent one in February). Although the soldiers have on-the-spot freedom, they are subject to the Soviet mission in Tirana. Allegedly, Mehmet Shehu, the “Soviet stooge” in Albania’s government, is angered by Bulgarian involvement. Resistance figures theorize that the changes are due to wavering Soviet interest in Albania or bias towards Bulgaria – indeed, Bulgarians receive a share of the “loot.”

Hungary – August 14, 1952 (OSA)

According to unconfirmed sources, Hungarian factories lack technicians. Some of them are arrested and/or deported because of unproven suspicions, though they are usually reinstated to their previous posts after liberation, and with higher pay.

Czechoslovakia - August 14, 1952 (OSA)

Deportations take place in four different cities of Czechoslovakia – Prague, Bratislava, Liberec, and Brno. However, the information spreads that Zapotocky has suggested to slow down the process because people are starting to compare the situation to the Nazi deportations. Deported people do not have to do any forced labor, they are just left on their own.

There are speculations about the purpose of deportations:

1. To provide more workers with housing
2. Psychological – to make the workers believe that some things are done to improve their living standards
3. Terror
4. Scatter prospective opposition

Some specific groups are chosen for deportation, which are:

1. Those with relatives living in the west
2. People who paid “millionaires tax” after 1948
3. Those who in the past have worked for western firms.

People deported from Prague are taken to the Silesian border, and others who are deported from Bratislava are sent to the eastern region of Slovakia.

Hungary – August 14, 1952 (HC)

The Parliament recognizes the resignation of Sándor Rónai and István Dobi as Chairman of the Presidential Council and as Chairman of the Council of Ministers respectively. Sándor Rónai is elected to be the President of the Parliament, István

Dobi the Chairman of the Presidential Council and Mátyás Rákosi the Chairman of the Council of Ministers. All ministers remain the same.

Czechoslovakia - August 15, 1952 (OSA)

Radio Free Europe and The Voice of America are the two most popular radios in Czechoslovakia. They have an immense impact on the citizens, and topics arisen in these broadcasts are usually widely discussed.

Soviet Union / China – August 17, 1952 (KCA)

A Chinese Government mission led by Chou En-lai arrives in Moscow for discussions on political and economic questions of mutual concern.

Hungary / Yugoslavia – August 17, 1952 (PVC)

Hungary sends a note of protest to Yugoslavia in which it accuses the Yugoslavs of deliberately blowing up the bridge over the river Drava at Letenye.

Yugoslavia / U.S. – August 18, 1952 (LBC)

The Mutual Security Administration guarantees to cover the possible losses incurred in Yugoslavia by U.S. businessmen.

Hungary – August 19, 1952 (OSA)

Large wheat exports are reported from Hungary (port of Baja) to the Soviet Union via the Black Sea. From July 26 until August 4 as much as 200 tons of wheat were exported daily, later as much as 400 a day. Soviet officers allegedly control the quality of the wheat.

Hungary – August 20, 1952 (HC)

Antibiotics are started to be produced at the Hajdúsági Medicine Factory in Debrecen.

Soviet Union – August 20, 1952 (KCA)

The Soviet State Press issues a statement from Stalin announcing that the 19th Party Congress will take place on **October 5**. The planned agenda includes the reorganization of the Communist Party, involving changes in the party's statutes, and the fifth Five-Year Plan of 1951-1955. A notable change in the party's statutes includes the dissolving of the Politburo and Orgburo.

Yugoslavia / Turkey – August 20, 1952 (PVC)

Tito entertains some Turkish journalists on the Isle of Brioni, which is widely regarded as a sign of improving relations between the two countries.

Yugoslavia / Greece – August 21-September 3, 1952 (PVC)

A Yugoslavian parliamentary delegation makes a return visit to Greece.

Romania – August 22, 1952 (PIR)

By a decision of the Council of Ministers, the “labor units,” now called “labor colonies,” are transferred into the administration of the Ministry of Internal Affairs.

Soviet Union / France / U.K. / U.S. / West Germany – August 23, 1952 (CWC)

The Soviet Union sends a note to the Western powers suggesting that they are preventing the reunification of Germany. The note also states that the abolition of the Western occupation in **May 1952** would lead to a rise of German militarism.

GDR / Soviet Union – August 23, 1952 (KCA)

The Soviet Government replies to the Western Powers’ notes of **July 10** on the question of drawing up a peace treaty for Germany. The Soviet response reiterates the Soviet Government’s opposition to the Bonn contractual agreements and the Treaty of the European Defense Community, again calling for a four-Power conference to discuss various issues in the immediate future, no later than October.

Hungary – August 23, 1952 (OSA)

Exports of foodstuffs, cattle, and industrial material by train are reported from Nyíregyháza to the Soviet Union. The goods exported are flour, cows, pigs, iron, German trucks, aircraft parts. Some of the goods are in boxes and their content is not clear.

Hungary – August 26, 1952 (OSA)

Hungarian musicians are reported to be influenced by the political regime in Hungary. One is criticized because he won a prize at a foreign festival, possibly because he composed music for the mass. Others are forced to work on Russian operetta, but their work is not recognized. Bartók’s music is not favored, though reasons are unclear.

Albania – August 28, 1952 (OSA)

A source from Trieste, citing Communist authorities, alleges that 107,000 Albanians have been killed or interned in labor camps since 1944 (more than 10% of the population). Many forced laborers work for 12 hours a day, suffer “slow starvation” and experience epidemics, and die following torture. However, allegedly, most deaths in camps are due to “mass murder, or genocide.” Albanian Communist torture methods are said to be worse than the Chinese or Mongols’ worst.

Villages are razed (resembling the 1942 Lidice massacre) due to tenuous rumors, and the captain of the Albanian secret police brags of executing 203 “traitors” without trial. The most notorious camp is near Lake Maliq. The army and government are in conflict resulting in Mehmet Shehu, Minister of the Interior, creating an arm of 12,000 against 30,000 regular forces. His better-equipped forces are often deployed against the army. Although most camps are already known, other details are unconfirmed.

Soviet Union / Bulgaria – August 29, 1952 (OSA)

The Stalin Technical University is the only Bulgarian university receiving a large number of international students. Most of them come from Albania. A smaller amount comes from Romania, Hungary, Poland, and Czechoslovakia. In addition, Bulgarian university students are also sent to other countries such as the Soviet Union or Czechoslovakia. No Soviet students ever studied in Bulgaria.

Czechoslovakia / Germany – August 29, 1952 (OSA)

According to a well-informed source, last week an economic conference was held in Prague, which was attended by all satellite countries. The main agenda of the conference was the lengthening of economic cooperation of the eastern bloc states in view of the need for a quick armament and foundation of army stores in Eastern Germany. At the conference, officials agreed to give a 70-million-rubles long-term credit to Eastern Germany from Czechoslovakia, before reaching the final decision.

Hungary – August 30, 1952 (HC)

Decree 75/1952 by the Hungarian Council of Ministers announces that the farmers can kill or trade their swine if they have any remaining after the state collection. However, all sows must be registered.

Hungary – August 30, 1952 (OSA)

A Hungarian doctor with British citizenship reports on a trip to Hungary after being away since 1936. He was given a one-month visa to visit his parents. Remarkably, he was stopped and asked questions a few times by unknown men who knew who he was: “How is it like to be in Hungary after 15 years?” The doctor especially disliked armed policewomen, who are allegedly trained in the Soviet Union. The doctor thought that the Horthy years were much better than the socialist regime.

Hungary – August, 1952 (HC)

The *Csillag* publishes *Lila tinta* (“Purple ink”) by István Örkény, a short story that initiates many debates.

September 1952

Poland / China - September 1952 (OSA)

It is reported that a Red Chinese “Cultural Delegation” from the Mao Zedong regime traveled to Eastern and South-Eastern Europe. The visit started from Poland and continued towards East Germany, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Romania, and Bulgaria.

Poland / Italy - September 1952 (OSA)

Italy and Poland sign a contract for the sale of 1,5 million dollars worth of Polish coal to Italy. Poland will use this money to pay for imported machinery for the building industry.

Hungary – September-October 1952 (REV/HC)

The so-called Felelet (Reply) debate, officially the ‘Debate on the Situation of Our Literature’, begins. The introductory contribution is by Miklós Gimes and the concluding contribution and summary by József Révai. Strong criticism is leveled at the novel Felelet by Tibor Déry, the story ‘Lila tinta’ (Purple Ink) by István Örkény, and the novels Almáskert (Apple Orchard) and Szegények szerelme (Love among the Poor) by Péter Veres.

Yugoslavia – September 1952 (ACY)

A group of former Silesian seminarians are tried in Ljubljana.

Soviet Bloc / France / U.K. / U.S. – September 2, 1952 (LBC)

The U.S. Department of Commerce announces an agreement between eleven countries on the stricter export control of 200 commodities, and on preventing those commodities from reaching the nations behind the Iron Curtain. The signatories include the U.S., Britain and France.

Hungary – September 2, 1952 (OSA)

The Hungarian political police are said to check very strictly the diplomats of Western countries. They are not allowed to go on holiday to the Balaton lake, and their trips on the Buda hills are followed step to step. Political agents in restaurants and cafés are ordered to notify the authorities of any visits by these diplomats. The personnel of the embassies are chosen by the ÁVH, which expects from them daily reports on what happens in the embassies.

Albania – September 2, 1952 (OSA)

Western diplomatic sources allege that Madame Nishani, the wife of President of the Albanian Supreme Assembly, Omer Nishani, was arrested on August 17, and detained for frequenting “reactionary” circles and disparaging Enver Hoxha and his policies. Mr. Nishani, a friend of Mehmed Shehu, is so far unmolested. This is unconfirmed.

Hungary – September 2, 1952 (OSA)

The 27 years old Hungarian journalist István Vajda is arrested by the Hungarian police trying to cross the Austrian border. Vajda is an example of the difficult situation of Hungarian journalists. He began his career in 1945 as a convinced Social-Democrat and initially did not want to go on exile, though he was forced to attend courses of ideological reeducation. His trial may be an excuse for a purge in the world of Hungarian journalism.

Soviet Union / U.S. – September 4, 1952 (LBC)

Presidential candidate, Eisenhower states his forthcoming agenda: “Aid by peaceful means but only by peaceful means, the right to live in freedom.” “The containing of communism... by itself is an inadequate approach.” “There is also a need to bring hope and every peaceful aid to the world’s enslaved peoples; we shall never be

truculent – but we shall never appease.” *Pravda* compares Eisenhower to Hitler and accuses him of seeking war with the Soviet Union in order to dominate the greater part of Europe and Asia.

Romania – September 4, 1952 (OAS)

Reports conclude that from the early ages of childhood, Romanian children first in kindergarten and later on in elementary schools undergo a “sovietized education” and are treated well in order to better influence their minds along “communist lines.” However, children are also used as hostages to pressure their families, or at times would be instructed to spy on them. In university, resistance groups are severely punished, with privileges being given to those who align with the communist ideology.

Hungary – September 6, 1952 (HC)

The Transportation and Technology University is opened in Szolnok.

Yugoslavia / U.K. – September 8, 1952 (PVC)

British mine sweepers arrive at the port of Split for the celebrations at the 10th anniversary of the Yugoslav Navy Day, held on **September 10**.

Romania – September 9, 1952 (PIR)

The Ministry of Meat, Fish and Milk is created.

Soviet Union /Latvia – September 9, 1952 (OSA)

A young boy from Liepaja is arrested by the police after getting off the tram from the wrong exit. Since he protests and refuses to pay the fine, he is put into the MVD building for several hours. The policemen also take his passport and call up for an interrogator to interrogate him. After a few questions, the interrogator decides to let him go.

Soviet Union / U.S. – September 11, 1952 (LBC)

According to Secretary of State, Dean Acheson, the proposal made by John Foster Dulles and presidential candidate Eisenhower for the forced liberation of the satellites would “lead to catastrophe”.

Czechoslovakia – September 11, 1952 (OSA)

Czechoslovakian workers at the railway station play significant role in the spread of anti-communist propaganda, as they can observe Czechoslovakian foodstuffs going out of the country. According to the reports, the foodstuffs are mostly directed to the Soviet Union, East Germany, and Western Germany.

Romania – September 12, 1952 (KCA)

An announcement in Bucharest states that Ana Pauker has been dismissed from the Vice-President of the Council of Ministers, the last position she officially held since being dismissed from her other posts earlier.

Albania / Greece – September 12, 1952 (OSA)

Two peasant refugees to Greece, a mother and daughter-in-law who escaped from Bodrishte village on July 29, report that escape is being dissuaded by rumors of mines on the Greek-Albanian border. They were motivated by a desire to join their husbands in Boston, Massachusetts. The Communist government is seeking to attract dollar remittances sent to Albania through issuing bonds called “Valjuto” in exchange, which have favorable purchasing power in Foreign Currency shops in Albania.

Albania’s press warns that all peasants must be incorporated into kolkhozes before the end of the Five Year Plan of January 1952. Villages are tightly organized along Communist lines, and “reactionary” villagers are interned while their property is turned over to Party “favorites,” under the pretext of an auction. Attendance at propaganda meetings is compulsory, where Americans and Greeks are denounced. The women claim “peace” propaganda is widely disbelieved. They believe southern Albanians seek Greek aid, whilst northerners still exalt King Zog. They allege religious persecution, with extra tasks on Sunday and fanatical pro-government priests. The disease is rife and healthcare expensive. The older woman observes bonuses granted to fertile families and special taxes against the unmarried and childless.

Hungary – September 13, 1952 (HC)

The Marxist-Leninist Evening University is opened in Budapest, in cooperation with the Budapest party council.

Soviet Union /Poland / Bulgaria – September 15, 1952 (OSA)

The Polish Minister of War fills all key positions in the Polish Army. Officers consist of 15 generals, 9 colonels, and several other high-ranking Soviet officers. Also, in Bulgaria, most of the Bulgarian military are trained in Soviet military schools.

Albania – September 15, 1952 (OSA)

Western diplomatic sources report that the Albanian government will open up to five schools for training stakhanovites by 1953, whose management will be entrusted to Soviet experts.

Albania – September 15, 1952 (OSA)

A source lists an increasing number of Soviet films shown in Albania.

Hungary September 15-19, 1952 (HC)

Nationwide celebrations are organized to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the birth of Lajos Kossuth. Statutory rule 1952:16 by the Hungarian Presidential Council announces that the Science University in Debrecen will be renamed in honor of Kossuth. The *Kossuth Emlékkönyv* (“Kossuth memorial book”) is published.

Soviet Union / China – September 15, 1952 (KCA)

The *TASS* Agency announces the conclusion of the Soviet–Chinese discussions, stating that they had been carried out in “an atmosphere of friendly mutual understanding and cordiality.” The Soviet Union has agreed to transfer all its right of joint administration in the Manchurian Railway to the Chinese People’s Republic without compensation, and the two countries have exchanged notes regarding the joint use of the Port Arthur naval base by both countries.

Hungary – September 16, 1952 (HC)

Decree 80/1952 by the Hungarian Council of Ministers announces that those who do not follow the regulations of agricultural production and state collection will be punished. Decree 83/1952 is announced about the required production of some goods. In order to ensure that no surpluses are produced, the production of some goods is restricted to a certain area. While farmers at that region must produce the regulated goods at a certain proportion of their lands, farmers living elsewhere must produce only different goods.

Soviet Union / Pakistan – September 16, 1952 (KCA)

The Soviet Union and Pakistan sign a barter agreement.

Romania – September 16, 1952 (PIR)

Admiral Nicolae Păiș dies in the Sighet prison.

Hungary – September 16, 1952 (OSA)

A 34-year-old Hungarian woman from Esztergom reports what happened to her after her husband escaped to Austria leaving her in Hungary. The husband escaped on May 13, planning to come back for her later. She eventually left on August 9. The very night her husband escaped, two men knocked at her door and questioned her. One was a detective, the other a ÁVH agent. She was forced to lie to them, pretending she knew nothing of her husband’s escape.

Czechoslovakia / Germany / France / Soviet Union / Switzerland – September 17, 1952 (OSA)

In September 1951 the suppression of private medical practice located in Prague began. Private consulting centers are transformed into medical centers. This change turn the doctors into debtors to the state, their medical rooms are confiscated and become the property of the National Health Institute. The doctors themselves are appointed to different medical centers. This medical system is very flawed, as transferring doctors several times a year in different medical centers makes it impossible for them to acquire decent knowledge about their cases. Another issue is that Czechoslovakia cannot import any medication from the US, France, Germany, or Switzerland, and after the nationalization of the pharmaceutical industry the production levels of Czechoslovakia tremendously decrease, hence it does not meet the needs of the Czech people.

Yugoslavia / U.K. – September 17-23, 1952 (KCA)

British Foreign Secretary Eden visits Yugoslavia for discussions with Marshall Tito. Both leaders agree that they desire close relations between the two countries.

Romania – September 18, 1952 (PIR)

The Ministry of Internal Affairs is reorganized, it is divided into 2 ministries: Ministry of State Security and Ministry of Internal Affairs. On this occasion, on **September 20th**, Alexandru Drăghici is dismissed from his office of Minister of Internal Affairs and moved to the head of the Ministry of State Security. The New Minister of Internal Affairs is Pavel Ștefan.

Hungary – September 19, 1952 (OSA)

A Bulgarian soldier living in Hungary tries to escape to Austria. He is captured and sent to trial, even though he offered 1000 forints to one of the guards, who rejected them. He is sentenced to a 6-month term, and later to be expelled to Bulgaria. However, he manages to get back to Hungary and tries to escape again.

Albania – September 19, 1952 (OSA)

Observations on the Albanian Catholic Church from 1945-52 include shooting and imprisonment of bishops, a claim that the “catholic hierarchy is completely unhinged,” and that “more conspicuous” or “more remarkable” Catholics are persecuted and unjustly considered reactionary. The historical background of dioceses is outlined. Most of these observations are unconfirmed.

Romania - September 19, 1952 (OAS)

An escaped worker depicts the “condition of payment of wages” and general “life in the industrial centers.” Wages would continuously get cut because of the inability to fulfill the required norms of work. Furthermore, the costs of repairs and repayments re also handed on to the workers, making them feel worse with the communists than capitalists. The Canteen meals of Sovromconstructia provide the bare minimum for workers, and are only given meat twice a month.

GDR / Soviet Union – September 23, 1952 (KCA)

The Western Powers’ reply to the latest Soviet note is delivered in Moscow. The reply rejects all attacks made by the Soviet Government in their previous note and again calls for the four occupying powers to discuss the formation of an impartial commission of investigation to ensure the holding of all-German elections.

Yugoslavia – September 23-25, 1952 (ACY)

The Catholic Bishops' Conference convenes in Zagreb.

Hungary / Romania – September 24, 1952 (HC)

The new Romanian constitution splits the country into 16 regions and 2 cities with rights of a region. The four counties mainly populated by Hungarians are united

under the name of Hungarian Autonomic Region. The region is given partial autonomy.

Yugoslavia / Turkey – September 24-28, 1952 (PVC)

A seven-member military delegation, headed by General Pavle Jakčić visits Turkey.

Hungary – September 25, 1952 (HC)

The Hungarian Presidential Council calls for a third peace loan program. The program ends on **October 3** with 1,752,683,000 forints.

Soviet Union / U.S. – September 26, 1952 (KCA)

Pravda publishes an article accusing the U.S. Ambassador to the Soviet Union, George Kennan of “malicious hostility” and of violating the obligations incumbent on him as a diplomat after he allegedly made slanderous comments about the Soviet Union to U.S. and German officials at the Berlin airport on **September 19**.

Hungary – September 26, 1952 (OSA)

A 26-year-old Hungarian laborer who escaped to Austria in June reports his opinions on Radio Free Europe. On the one hand, programs which threaten Communists and make fun out of Stakhanovite miners are good. On the other hand, it happens that the Hungarian broadcasts do not mention Hungary. Moreover, broadcasts underline all the time that the West does not want to free Hungary with war: but how could Hungary be freed without war? Hungarians need facts, not only words.

Romania – September 27, 1952 (PIR)

The 2nd Constitution of the People's Republic of Romania, adopted **September 24**, is published. According to article 86, P.M.R was “the driving force for workers’ organization, as well as for the state organs and institutions,” whilst “the basis of popular power in the R.P.R. is represented by the alliance between the working class and the working peasantry,” and “Popular Councils are the basis of politics in the R.P.R.” The law for the administration and economic administration of Romania is modified, reducing the number of regions from 28 to 18.

Soviet Union / Uzbekistan – September 28, 1952 (KCA)

Pravda denounces all claims of the growth of nationalism in the Soviet Republic of Uzbekistan.

Hungary – September 28, 1951 (OSA)

According to a Hungarian railroad worker, the Soviet Union tries to export to Hungary its wider rail gauge system. Previously, Soviet wagons arrived at Cop (the last Soviet station before the Hungarian border) and had to be re-set for Hungarian rails. Now, the Soviet gauge rails go until Záhony. Twenty-four wide-

gauge rails are made, and Záhony becomes an important re-setting station. Railroad works of another kind also take place, with as many as 3,000 workers employed.

Albania / Yugoslavia – October 28, 1952 (OSA)

An Albanian who escaped to Greece from Yugoslavia in August claims that Yugoslavia pressurizes Albanian refugees to return to Albania as spies. The Albanian, imprisoned in Albania as a “nationalist,” escaped to Yugoslavia in May 1951. Refugees are paid 4,000 dinars monthly, regardless of their employment status, but are frequently sent back to Albania to create incidents, gather information, and distribute propaganda (those who refuse are imprisoned). Refugees allege that Tito’s real aim is to annex Albania. The 30-strong Albanian Committee in Yugoslavia is rarely convoked, and its executive follows Yugoslav orders. This information is said to be “exaggerated,” as many more refugees are exempt.

Albania – September 28, 1951 (OSA)

A source purports that a strong anti-Communist propaganda campaign is launched in Tirana against September’s “Month of Soviet-Albanian-Friendship.” Since August 31, pamphlets have accused Russia of taking Albania’s oil, wool, and foodstuffs in exchange for Soviet propaganda. Pamphlets were found at the airport when the Soviet delegation arrived.

Czechoslovakia – September 29, 1952 (KCA)

After recently retiring from the post of U.N. Assistant Secretary-General for Legal Affairs, Dr. Ivan Kerno announces that he will remain in the U.S. and will not return to Czechoslovakia, hoping to be granted asylum by the U.S. Government.

Hungary / Soviet Union – September 30, 1952 (HC)

The Soviet Union gives back to Hungary the ownership of those 69 factories which were originally owned by Germans and later by the Soviet Union.

Hungary – September 30, 1952 (OSA)

Hungarians expelled within the borders of the country are reported to live in harsh conditions. They have to pay high prices for lodging, and their freedom of movement is strongly limited. Moreover, they have to perform hard agricultural labor, which exerts a toll on their health. They officially work for the state, but it is difficult for them to obtain sick leave and have to pay for their medicines. Even their state pay does not always arrive. Their children are discriminated at school.

Hungary – September 30, 1952 (OSA)

A British Quaker woman leaves Hungary after spending 30 years there and reports on living conditions in the country. She had run a Quaker-funded orphanage in Hungary, but this was dismantled by the local Council. In 1948, two empty rooms of the orphanage were destined as workers’ lodgings, but she had nothing to complain about.

October 1952

Poland - October 1952 (OSA)

Due to maneuvers of the Western countries of the Atlantic Pact, rumors about a possible war spread in Poland. This leads many young soldiers to desert and escape in the forests near Białystok, Augustów, and Łomża. Several KBW troops surround the forests in order to flush out the young soldiers, using artillery and tanks.

Hungary – October 1, 1952 (REV)

Thirty inhabitants of Keszthely are convicted of conspiracy and dissident behavior. András Farsang and József Erdélyi are condemned to death and their associates are given long prison sentences. The death sentences are carried out on **January 27, 1953**.

Soviet Union - October 1, 1951 (OSA)

Three jokes about Eisenhower, Picasso, and a priest.

Albania / Yugoslavia – October 1, 1951 (OSA)

Allegedly, two leaders of the Albanian anti-Communist resistance have flee to Yugoslavia. Pal Biba organized guerrilla bands, whilst Gjon Gjinaj fought against the spread of Communism in mountainous Mirdizia. The former was provoked by eye trouble, and the latter by a wound in a July skirmish, to leave Albania for Yugoslavia.

Soviet Union - October 1, 1951 (OSA)

In 1918 Russia there were about 6 million Catholics. In 1949, the USSR had around 500,000 Catholics, in 1945 - 7-8 million Catholics. The forced abolition of the Union of Brest in 1946 sharply reduced the number of Catholics. The Church was accused of meddling with non-spiritual matters, many priests are accused of being reactionaries, of opposing Communist ideology, contacts with foreign powers, etc. Thousands of Catholics are condemned to forced labor. Meanwhile, the Soviet radio and press continued to spread lies about the Catholic Church and its hierarchy. Falsifications are even found in the publications of the Academy of Science, for instance, the article “The Reactionary Sociology of the Present Day Vatican” was published in 1948. The Russian Church supported these lies and reprinted the article in the Patriarch Review in 1949.

Soviet Union - October 1, 1951 (OSA)

There are no iron goods available in Daugavpils, Latvia. Consequently, newly built or recently repaired houses are not equipped with window fasteners, door locks, etc.

Soviet Union - October 2, 1951 (OSA)

25 industrial enterprises in Riga are castigated by a Communist Party at a rally on September 7, 1951, for not having fulfilled their plans for August. Among the

reasons for the unfulfilled plan, the main one is poor planning and finance management. The outcome of the Communist Party meeting was the decision to increase political surveillance and control.

Soviet Union - October 2, 1951 (OSA)

Reportedly, Estonian administration matters have to be handled in Russian, especially in the ministries of communications, security, and finances, where almost all executive jobs are taken up by Russians. However, Sovietization has not yet reached the rural area to the same degree. Proportions of Estonians in Party Secretaries in the rural areas are much larger. However, these proportions are probably going to be changed under the statement of the first secretary of the central committee: "Although a lack of knowledge of the local language causes some difficulties it is not of great importance... What is important is a thorough knowledge of the language of the Party."

Soviet Union / FRG / US - October 2, 1951 (OSA)

Former Soviet Army officers, who had escaped to the West four years ago, holds a meeting on September 16, 1951, in Hamburg. The conference is aimed at drawing the attention of Western nations which, according to the conferees, could use Soviet Army refugees more actively in the fight against Communism. The conference is attended by Russians. The conference resolution's main points are the following: the Russian nation would tolerate no oppression from outside; it is impossible to restore pre-revolutionary conditions in Russia; the Soviet government has no success in its attempt to create hatred among the population towards the West and the USA, which would be welcomed as liberators by the great masses of the Russian people. At the end of the meeting, a permanent administrative committee of 6 people is elected.

Hungary – October 2, 1952 (HC)

Decree 90/1952 by the Hungarian Council of Ministers announces that the kulaks are required to keep livestock.

Soviet Union / Bulgaria / Romania / Turkey – October 3, 1952 (OSA)

The Soviet, Bulgarian, and Romanian ambassadors arrive in Izmir for the International Fair. On September 18, a significant change in tactics is made apparent in Izmir. The Turkish Ministry of Foreign Affairs sends out a flight restriction for Soviet diplomats and diplomats of satellite countries. Diplomats of Socialist countries need special authorization to travel outside a radius of 50 kilometers out of Ankara.

Soviet Union / U.S. – October 3, 1952 9 (KCA)

The Soviet Government declares U.S. Ambassador George Kennan *persona non grata* and demands his immediate recall from the country. U.S. Secretary of State Dean Acheson issues a statement declaring that the U.S. Government does not accept as valid the charges made by the Soviet Union against Kennan.

Yugoslavia / France – October 4, 1952 (PVC)

General Blanc, Chief of Staff of the French Army, leaves for an official visit in Yugoslavia.

Soviet Union / Italy - October 4, 1952 (OSA)

Seemingly, the Soviet Intelligence and Counterintelligence service in Italy is directed by several Soviet diplomats - Pavel Medvedkovski, Alexei Pokrovski, Mihail Laktjukov, Sviatoslav Bondarenko. The Sovexportfilm Agency in Rome, which is directed by Tschernov, sends Italian Communists to various Italian towns and villages, officially figuring as delegates of the agency in charge of the projection of Soviet films. In effect, they contact the local cells of the “Italian-Soviet Friendship Association.” The director of the Sovexportfilm from 1943 to 1950, Zakhatrvich Anatolii, was recalled to Russia in 1950 and subsequently arrested.

Soviet Union - October 5, 1951 (OSA)

Members of Estonia’s Academy of Sciences have to pass a political examination after finishing the courses on Communism, due to their lack of knowledge of Marxist and Leninist teachings. Simultaneously, the Party cell within the academy is been ordered to intensify its struggle against all bourgeois vestiges, such as individualism, etc.

Soviet Union - October 5, 1951

The 1951 harvest in Estonia brings 20% more grain than in 1950, the plan on grain and hay is been fulfilled. The peasants get 3.5 kg or more of grain per working day, compared to 2.5 kg a day in 1950.

Albania – October 5, 1951 (OSA)

It has been variously confirmed that the leaders of the Albanian resistance in Kolonia and Durazza, alongside other resistance members, have died, whilst the vice-Minister of Interior and chief of police committed suicide after failing to prevent sabotage of the Soviet Legation, and the chairman of the Executive Council of Tirana was arrested for anti-Soviet speeches.

Hungary – October 4-5, 1952 (HC)

The *Szabad Nép*, a Hungarian newspaper, publishes Stalin’s “*The economic problems of socialism in the Soviet Union*”.

Hungary / Soviet Union– October 5-14, 1952 (REV)

The 13th Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union convenes after a gap of 13 years. The Central Committee report is delivered by Georgi Malenkov, not Stalin. The name of the party changes to the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (CPSU). The Hungarian Workers’ Party (MDP) is represented at the congress by Mátyás Rákosi, Ernő Gerő and István Hidas.

Soviet Union – October 5, 1952 (CWC)

Georgy Malenkov delivers a speech reaffirming the Marxist doctrine of the inevitability of wars between Capitalist states. The speech is used to justify higher defense spending.

Soviet Union – October 5- 14, 1952 (KRI)

The nineteenth party congress approves the fifth Five-Year Plan.

Hungary – October 7, 1952 (OSA)

A cooper escapes from Hungary on August 22, 1952, and reports on the circumstances which convinced him to leave the country. After high school, he wanted to become a mechanical engineer but saw the task as impossible because of his parents' poverty. He thought to be a typist, but later he chose the profession of cooper. As late as 1949 one could make a living on the cooper's profession, but things changed in 1952 when this work was heavily taxed.

Soviet Union / U.S. – October 8, 1952 (KCA)

The U.S. State Department contests the Soviet request to expel U.S. Ambassador Kennan from his post in Moscow.

Soviet Union - October 8, 1951 (OSA)

Biography of Otto Wille Kuuisinen, the president of the Karelo-Finnish Soviet Republic and vice-president of the supreme council of the USSR.

Hungary – October 11, 1952 (OSA)

A Hungarian warden who used to work in a mental asylum escapes to Austria and reports the worsening of the mental health conditions in Hungary in postwar years. Persecution, nationalization, terror, the political police, and the deprivation of pensions take a heavy toll on Hungarians' mental health. One mental asylum is so full that patients have to sleep on the floor, two-three patients may be packed in a room meant for one, causing fights and injuries.

Hungary – October 12, 1952 (HC)

Celebrations are organized in Eger for the 400th anniversary of the victorious battle against the Turks.

Soviet Union - October 12, 1951

According to the plan, 2 new flax mills should be ready by the end of 1951 in Estonia, close to the Soviet border. The mills, however, will not be ready in time, due to issues with construction work, and a shortage of the means of transporting bricks. The Ministry of Light Industry was attacked throughout the summer regarding its incapability to cope with the projects' requirements.

Soviet Union - October 12, 1951 (OSA)

Korvits Harry, the secretary to Soviet Estonia's Composers' Association,

reportedly states that tangos, foxtrots, and jazz bands have to be liquidated in Estonia to the advantage of Russian music and dances. This reorganization of leisure time has to be made to promote Communist education.

Soviet Union - October 12, 1951 (OSA)

Leonard Illisson delivers a speech at a TUC session on the necessity of more political education and stronger socialist competition, as a means to increase building activities. He is challenged by the stakhanovite mason Karber, who declares that building is hampered only by lack of material. In 1951, only a fifth of the norms was fulfilled.

Yugoslavia / France / U.K. / U.S. – October 13, 1952 (KCA)

Belgrade announces that the U.S., British and French Governments have come to an agreement with Yugoslavia whereby it will continue to receive tripartite aid from the Western Powers through **June 1953**, the value of which is \$99 million altogether. Washington contributes \$78 million.

Hungary – October 14, 1952 (OSA)

A 27-year-old Hungarian butcher reports his repeated escape attempts from Hungary. He firstly crossed the Austrian border in May 1952, leaving his wife at home. He was then convinced to retry to escape with her, with the collaboration of some border guards. They finally managed to escape. They report that two-three Hungarians escape to Austria every day, notwithstanding border control. They claim that getting close to the border is more difficult than actually crossing it.

Soviet Union / Poland – October 14, 1952 (OSA)

In autumn 1952, high Polish Communist circles report that the Soviet Union offers an exchange in the territory to obtain West Berlin. Private discussions between the USSR and France take place. The Soviet Union may agree to the militarization of West Germany, as long as the German army does not exceed 150,000 soldiers.

Soviet Union – October 15, 1952 (OSA)

A few people are arrested by Soviet police terror in Ruthenia. The arrests are performed secretly, mostly at night. The inhabitants are invited to join a voluntary work brigade leaving for the Donbas, but most of them are taken there by force. Some of these workers try to escape but probably they will not succeed, since the MVD keeps a close watch on them.

Soviet Union - October 17, 1951 (OSA)

Estonia's minister of agriculture demands a broadcast on September 23, 1951, about the tractor stations that need to work double shifts to do all the ploughing and thrashing necessary before the winter.

Soviet Union - October 17, 1951 (OSA)

List of Latvian representatives in the supreme council of the USSR elected on March 12, 1950.

Soviet Union - October 17, 1951 (OSA)

List of personalities in Latvia's Ministry of Security (KGB)

GDR / Soviet Union - October 18, 1951 (OSA)

The old Nazi framework is used in organizing Soviet concentration camps in East Germany. Most of the camps are gradually shut down, some prisoners are set free, while others are sent to Soviet labor camps.

GDR / Soviet Union - October 18, 1951 (OSA)

General hostility towards religion continues in East Germany. According to information from Berlin, seven of the eight members of the Chapter of Ermland Cathedral in East Prussia are persecuted by the Communists. After visiting the Soviet zone, Bishop Doepfner of Wurzburg in Bavaria reports a close collaboration between Protestants and Catholics. As a result of the influx of refugees, the number of Catholics increases, and many Catholic ceremonies are held in Protestant churches.

Soviet Union / Italy / Poland / Romania - October 18, 1951

The Soviets, as well as the Poles and Romanians, are ordering large quantities of laurel leaves, orange, lemon peels, capers, molasses, etc. from Rome.

Soviet Union / Austria / GDR / France - October 18, 1951

The Patriarchate of Moscow dissolves the Exarchate of Central Europe, which had its headquarters in Vienna. Archbishop Sergio, the former exarch, is been appointed Archbishop of Berlin. The Austrian parishes of the patriarchate are transferred to the Exarchate of Western Europe.

Soviet Union - October 18, 1951

800 propagandists are sent out in Estonia to increase political indoctrination in the country. Their duty is to form study groups and lead seminars. Political education classes are obligatory for schoolteachers, writers, and poets.

Soviet Union - October 18, 1951

Estonia seems designated to become a chief provider of eggs, butter, milk, and meat for the Northern Soviet Areas due to the following reasons: the number of domesticated animals in Estonia is larger than in the Soviet Union, there is no animal breeding center in the north which could provide Leningrad area with dairy products. The Estonian press and radio are stressing the importance of animal breeding as one of the foundations of Estonia's economy, and the Soviets invest a lot more in Estonia than in Latvia or Lithuania. Despite these endeavors, agricultural plans are never fulfilled.

Soviet Union - October 18, 1951

The Soviet government begins the separation of the Tatar minority which has been living in Bessarabia for centuries. It is believed that this group is being sent to the Tatar zone of the USSR.

Soviet Union - October 19, 1951

The document encompasses the origin and history of the Soviet forced labor camps, their organization system, and statistics on the number of prisoners, victims. etc.

Soviet Union - October 19, 1951 (OSA)

Reportedly, Estonian communists announced that the official 150th anniversary of the Tartu university is to be held in the summer of 1952. The university was founded by the Swedish king Gustabus in 1632. However, Soviet historians changed the foundation date to 1802 - the year when Alexander I of Russia granted Tartu the right to resume its activities, which had ceased during a number of war years. The date was presumably changed because Soviet historians do not want to admit that Tartu university was founded by a Westerner, and that it is also older than any Russian university.

Soviet Union - October 19, 1951 (OSA)

Rare letters from Estonia are written in a sort of code to pass the censor, but it is sometimes possible to identify the conditions in the country. For instance, almost every letter contains sentences like "Marie's chest is ill," "Salme has a hole as big as a plum in her lung," "Leida hoped to be admitted to a hospital soon." Some references are made to relatives, such as "NN has joined his uncle" or "X has found a job at the same place as his brother," while NN's uncle and X's brother were deported to the USSR in 1941.

Soviet Union - October 19, 1951 (OSA)

The Members of Tartu University are implementing regulations on the studies of Communism. The university now has 6 political schools, 8 study groups, and 1 seminary, where some 600 people are studying Marx and Lenin's teachings. Another 124 people study Marxism-Leninism at the evening school, while some 130 study privately.

Hungary – October 18, (OSA)

The former supreme commander Kamilló Kárpáty is expelled. There are also unconfirmed rumors about his death, and about the death of Béla Csizik, former State Secretary of the Finance Ministry. Both were allegedly deported into small rural communities near Szolnok.

Hungary – October 23, 1952 (HC)

Session of the Central Leadership of the Hungarian Workers' Party. It is decided that Stalin's "*The economic problems of the Soviet Union*" and the outline of the

19th congress of the CPSU will be used as bases for Hungarian socialism in terms of party organization, politics, ideology, economics and culture.

Soviet Union - October 23, 1951 (OSA)

Seemingly, a refugee in Sweden is jokingly told about potential deportation due to his absence of a doctor's certificate. He runs away to the forest and spends almost a week there. He is found by the police patrol.

Soviet Union / Sweden - October 24, 1951 (OSA)

The first forest brigades of peasants from Estonian kolkhozes were sent out on October 10, 1951. One brigade consists of 10-20 men and women, who have a couple of horses, carts, and sledges. Often housing conditions in the forest are poor, peasants often have to repair their premises. They also have to attend long political lectures after working hours.

Soviet Union - October 24, 1951 (OSA)

Conditions in Latvia's biggest Baltic harbor Ventspils are poor. All railway tracks in the harbor need repair. Half of the cranes in the harbor and, most importantly, store houses need repair. A number of meetings are held to discuss necessary repairs and adoption of the working plan. However, bureaucratic and organizational issues hamper the process.

Soviet Union - October 24, 1951 (OSA)

Large-scale agro- and zoo-technical training is conducted in Estonia and the two other Baltic countries. The courses last 3 years. Teachers are agronomists, veterinary surgeons, and foremen. The training is supervised by Party functionaries and is aimed at improving the chaotic conditions in agriculture. Overall, there are around 25,180 kolkhoz and 3,247 sovkhos peasants participating in the training.

Soviet Union / Czechoslovakia – October 25, 1952 (OSA)

In 1952, workers in Ruthenia receive two weeks of paid holiday each year. This is successfully strengthening not only the relations between workers and the administration but also develops solidarity. On the other hand, the inhabitants of Ruthenia wish the old times could come back when they overheard about the preparation of a US imperialistic war.

Soviet Union / FRG / GDR / Austria / Yugoslavia / Hungary / Romania / Italy / Poland -October 26, 1951

Seemingly, despite declarations that there are no longer any POWs in the USSR, prisoners of war are still held in abject misery. In February 1951, in the Soviet prison camp at Jelabuga there were: 1,000 Germans, 299 Austrians, 1,000 Yugoslavs, 30 Hungarians, 80 Romanians, 12 Italians, 6 Poles.

Soviet Union / FRG - October 27, 1951 (OSA)

Millions of dollars worth of industrial machinery badly needed by the Soviets is been transported from Germany to the USSR and the satellite countries. However, the machinery is been left out in the open to rust, because the buildings and plants where it was to be installed are not completed. Much of this machinery, in a rusted condition, is observed at Zelenodolsk, Tatar ASSR.

Soviet Union - October 27, 1951 (OSA)

The Leningrad swinery trust takes a number of Estonian sovkhoses, which are managed by a special commission, independent from the Estonian Ministry of sovkhoses and the Ministers' Council. The manager of the commission is a Soviet, Silvanovski. The number of the Leningrad-owned sovkhoses is around 18.

GDR / Hungary – October 26-29, 1952 (HC)

A Hungarian government delegation led by Mátyás Rákosi travels to East Germany.

Poland – October 26, 1952 (PLC/PSN)

The second elections to the Diet are held. The official vote shows that the National Front wins 99.8% of the vote and that participation rates are 95%.

Yugoslavia / United Nations – October 27, 1952 (RYN)

Yugoslavia is elected to the U.N. Economic and Social Council.

Romania – October 28, 1952 (PIR)

Philosopher Mircea Vulcănescu dies in the *Aiud* prison.

Hungary – October 29, 1952 (HC)

The Hungarian Council of Ministers decides that the salaries of employees at universities, colleges and academic institutions will be raised.

GDR / Soviet Union / FRG - October 31, 1951 (OSA)

There are different reactions from the East-German population to the tentative acceptance of West-German Chancellor Adenauer's 14 points as the basis for future negotiations on the unification of all Germany. Workers and peasants are either hopeful about the change or complain less about the working conditions or long queues since "it will not last long anyway." They get bolder criticizing the regime more openly, while middle-class people and the intelligentsia are more skeptical about the change, considering it a Soviet trick. The most indoctrinated Communists trust their leaders, while rank-and-file members are confused and often panic. Some indications show that the second category is probably the nearest to the truth. Unusually, many secret meetings are taking place with only a few Communist officials, and according to an informant from People's Police certain plans are prepared for People's Police to go underground and emerge as an organized force, to probably take over all Germany.

Soviet Union / Norway - October 31, 1951 (OSA)

The Communist Party of Norway, backed by the Soviet Union, is gradually losing its popularity in Norway. In the 1951 municipal government elections, the CP get votes from 93,000 Norwegians, compared to 143,000 in the previous elections. The CP loses over 300 out of its 813 mandates in local government.

Hungary – October, 1952 (HC)

Semmelweis, a film directed by Frigyes Bán, is first shown.

November 1952

Poland - November 1952 (OSA)

A decree announces that every citizen of the Polish Popular Republic has to register in order to obtain a regular passport. The government will be determining places of employment and will indicate towns and villages for habitation. This provokes great anxiety among the population.

Hungary – November 1952 (HC)

An exhibition by Sándor Ék at the Ernst Museum in Budapest is presented. A portrait of Rákosi and a painting titled “*Soviet troops escorting German war prisoners*” receive special attention.

Hungary – November 1952 (HC)

The film *Erkel* by Márton Keleti is first shown.

GDR / Poland - November 1, 1951 (OSA)

Some East German workers in Rostock are reported to be forced to “volunteer” to work in Poland. Otherwise, they would not get subsidies or new jobs.

U.S. – November 1, 1952 (REV)

The U.S. tests a hydrogen bomb on the Marshall Islands.

Yugoslavia – November 2-7, 1952 (PLC)

At the 6th congress of the Yugoslav Communist Party the party is renamed the League of Yugoslav Communists in order to emphasize the country’s separation from the Soviet Union.

Soviet Union - November 3, 1951 (OSA)

In line with the increased political indoctrination in all fields in Latvia, a purge of Latvian intelligentsia seems impending. Indications of the purge are given at the 9th plenary session of the Central Committee (CC) of the Latvian Communist Party in Riga on September 27-28, 1951. At the meeting, the secretary of the CC Pelshe A. launches a crushing attack against the intellectuals of the country. He declares that a bourgeois-nationalist group was unmasked at the philological faculty of the Riga University, that the whole university is infested with bourgeois-nationalistic

elements. Pelshe also complains about the almost non-existing political training of the students, and orders the immediate political activation and education of all teachers, physicians and medical personnel, business clerks, bank workers, etc.

Romania – November 5, 1952 (PIR)

The Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Romanian Workers' Party takes measures to ensure the activity of party and state leadership in case of aggression against the territory of Romania. It also appoints Gheorghiu-Dej President of the Superior Military Council.

Soviet Union – November 5, 1952 (KCA)

Radio Moscow states that the Premier of the Russian Soviet Federal Socialist Republic Chernousov has been replaced by Alexander Puzanov, a member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union. No explanation is given concerning the replacement.

Poland / Yugoslavia – November 5, 1952 (PVC)

In its latest note, Poland accuses the employees of the Yugoslav Embassy in Warsaw of espionage.

Hungary – November 5, 1952 (OSA)

Middle-class women are said to find a job more easily than men, even highly paid jobs that imply responsibility. However, some Soviet bosses seem to have an interesting view of female beauty standards. Tall and thin women are considered aristocratic and attractive by Western, imperialist standards, while the new Socialist woman should be stout, strong, and healthy. The polite address “Ön” is no longer favored in workplaces. Formerly rich women may have to perform menial jobs.

Hungary – November 5, 1952 (OSA)

Air-raid protection preparation is reported in Eastern Hungary. An air surveillance system is established, with female members of the Freedom Fighting Union as guards. The guards have 4-hour shifts and perform their duty from special watchtowers or church bell towers. The guards are in telephone contact with their officers and take a log of all air traffic they spot: quantity, type, dimension, direction, etc. They are equipped with a compass, binoculars, keys for secret codes.

Hungary – November 5, 1952 (OSA)

Change in street names cause problems for packages sent from abroad to Hungary. If one parcel is sent with the old address, it may never be delivered. Instead, it may be given to the Korean solidarity fund.

Hungary – November 6, 1952 (OSA)

An English trade union leader recently returned from a visit to Hungary expresses different views publicly and privately. He publicly states that Hungarian miners' life is happy and careless compared to that of British miners, who have to strike

and fight for bare subsistence and human rights. Moreover, he says that all Hungarian workers are in constant contact with their union leaders, who represent their interests. Privately, he states the exact opposite.

Soviet Union - November 6, 1951 (OSA)

The Estonian Communist authorities consider the existing labor norms too low, and decide to replace them with so-called techno-progressive norms. They are built upon a calculation of the technical capacity of the machines and the quotas of shock workers, not the average workers. Meanwhile, the salaries are intended to remain the same.

Albania / Romania / Poland / Vatican City – November 6, 1952 (OSA)

A source in Rome alleges that regulations regarding elections in Albania, Romania, and Poland issued by the Vatican State Secretariat order Catholics to abstain from voting, except if facing death or retribution on others. Catholics are purportedly forbidden to make pro-Communist propaganda or campaign against electoral absenteeism. However, the application of this to Poland is said to be “false.” Few Vatican-following Catholics in Romania are said to be in any position to vote or campaign, whilst the head of the Albanian Catholic Church is directly sponsored and directed by the government, making the application of the regulations unfeasible.

Soviet Union / Sweden - November 6, 1951 (OSA)

A former Soviet agent Suurvaeli Erik, who was convicted for espionage in Sweden, and who after serving his term was returned to Soviet Estonia, airs his complaints against Sweden via Radio Tallinn, by telling his countrymen about poor working conditions in Sweden. Estonians in Sweden hear his comments with a laugh.

Soviet Union - November 6, 1951 (OSA)

Two Estonians are fired from their posts as ministers of light industry and social insurance. They are replaced with two Soviets.

Soviet Union - November 7, 1951 (OSA)

The Soviet-appointed Lithuanian Minister of State Control, in an article in the *Sovietskaia Litva* (July 6, 1951), complains about defrauded management of local industries who are having “hidden reserves” or raw materials.

GDR / Soviet Union / Poland - November 8, 1951 (OSA)

Tension between East Germany and Poland is seemingly increasing in connection with the Soviet-sponsored Polish-East-German “repatriation” agreement concerning Silesian expellees. The East-German Government opposes the idea of sending more skilled German workers to Poland. Polish authorities, also opposing the industrial pooling and labor exchange scheme, release statistical figures to demonstrate that it would be difficult to accommodate “repatriable” workers due to overpopulation and lack of housing. The Soviet authorities, despite the resistance

from Poland and East Germany, are still pushing forward the Silesian German worker scheme.

Soviet Union / Poland / Czechoslovakia - November 9, 1951 (OSA)

Reportedly, arms, ammunition, and war supplies from Poland and Czechoslovakia are shipped to the Far East. At present, over 20 ships are in regular traffic between these ports and China.

Soviet Union / Italy - November 10, 1951 (OSA)

Soviet merchant ships from Odessa stop at the port of Genoa, unloading steel, iron, grain, and newsprint. The captain of the Soviet ship allows his sailors to go ashore. The Soviet sailors in Genoa are given part of their salary in Italian currency, but it is not enough to purchase many goods in Genoa. The first thing the sailors buy is a suitcase, because in the USSR it is impossible to buy one at any time, only when there is a distribution, and that happens rarely. A suitcase is the only useful item in life for Soviet people, it can fit all their belongings when they have to move from one apartment to another. Besides suitcases, the seamen purchase watches, fountain pens, shoes, etc., all the articles which are not available in Soviet stores. Surprisingly, the officers of the Soviet Union are paid more than those of the Western countries, and the difference between the sailors' pay and that of the officers is greater on Soviet ships than for example on American or Italian vessels.

Soviet Union – November 11, 1952 (REV)

Several doctors at the Kremlin Hospital who have treated Stalin and other party leaders are arrested for 'conspiracy to liquidate the leaders of the party, government and army.' The doctors' trial is planned to be part of a 'great Zionist trial'.

Hungary – November 11, 1952 (OSA)

Two soldiers are reported to have escaped first to Austria, then to West Germany. The two soldiers reportedly escaped in broad daylight and uniforms. They told local peasants – who have a theoretical obligation to report any suspicious movement at the border - that they were on duty. One of the soldiers joined relatives who had already emigrated to Germany.

Hungary – November 12, 1952 (OSA)

Several Hungarian officials request to be moved to other posts after they are pilloried in a Radio Free Europe blacklist.

Hungary – November 13, 1952 (OSA)

A former Hungarian SS is reported to try to escape from Hungary. This person entered the SS in Hungary in 1943 and participated in the desperate defense of Budapest until the last moment. He was captured by the Soviets in February 1945, enclosed in a detention camp and put to forced labor. He later escaped, was captured again, and sentenced to a three-year term. He was later freed, imprisoned again, and put again to forced labor until he managed to escape to Germany.

Soviet Union / Middle East – November 13, 1952 (OSA)

While the USA wants to benefit from resources in the Middle East, the Soviet Union tries to use the Arabs as a tool to deteriorate Western strength. With the Eastern Foreign Trade organization established, the Soviet Union tries to intervene in trading activities. In addition to this, the USSR has another means, the Kurdish tribes who fight for independence.

Soviet Union - November 13, 1951 (OSA)

Reportedly, an extensive purge of intellectuals within the Party cells is happening in Kazakhstan. The purge is connected with the recent Kasakh “revolt,” caused by the change over kolkhozization to the system of agrorods. The only way to deal with these situations is to tighten the political grip over the agrorods. In Kazakhstan, the blow strikes the intellectuals, but similar purges are probably carried out in other Soviet provinces.

Soviet Union / US -November 13, 1951 (OSA)

According to Fairman Milton, the director of Public Relations of the Borden Company from New York, 38 members of the Soviet delegation who arrived in the States to visit the Japanese Peace Treaty Conference in San Francisco, over 5 days ordered an average of 65\$ worth of dairy products from the Borden Company. They daily ate a great deal of sweet butter, eggs, sour cream, fresh milk, cottage cheese, etc.

Soviet Union - November 13, 1951 (OSA)

Estonian peasants’ rights are extremely limited. A special state commission now organizes the distribution of the fodder during the winter 1951-1952, and assigns the various haystacks and barns to the stables, pigsties, hen houses, etc.

Soviet Union - November 13, 1951 (OSA)

In order to meet the demands of a stepped-up Sovietization of Estonia, Communist authorities make a general check-up of popular meeting places all over the country. As a result, the “culture-halls” of the town and the “people’s houses” of the rural districts are found in deplorable shape, demonstrating a lack of interest in political matters.

Soviet Union / US - November 13, 1951 (OSA)

Seemingly, a broadcast to the Latvian youth on October 9, 1951 states that an officer of the American occupation army can press a button to rise the level of the Rhine by 20 meters and cause large areas to be flooded.

Soviet Union - November 13, 1951 (OSA)

In order to celebrate the October Revolution in Latvia, the provincial areas were promised food for 69 million rubles, cotton material for 14 million, as well as shoes, wool, and silk. The Latvian Soviet Republic now has 1,515 kolkhozes. In Liepaja, 4,550 Communists study political science in 115 seminars and 94 political

schools. According to official sources, the number of Communist youth “pioneers” in Latvia amounts to 108,000. Their activities are criticized by the secretary of the central committee of the juvenile Communists Lazdina, who complains about many disobedient members.

Soviet Union / Italy - November 14, 1951 (OSA)

About a year ago, according to an informant, a Soviet doctor who had come to Genoa from Odessa declared that, since the end of the last year, it has been difficult to obtain a divorce in the USSR.

Soviet Union / Italy - November 14, 1951 (OSA)

Seemingly, there is talk of new Soviet orders for lemons and oranges from Italy. The Soviets also order capers, laurel leaves, essential oils, etc. These orders are placed although difficulties in meetings and payments still continue. At present, the Soviet Commercial Mission in Rome owes more than 1,000,000,000 Liras.

GDR / FRG - November 15, 1951 (OSA)

Seemingly, a tailor from East Germany, who had clients from the Volkspolizei, quits his job and manages to cross the border to Western Berlin with a large van loaded with his goods.

Soviet Union / US - November 16, 1951 (OSA)

Every year the Soviet Ambassador in Washington gives an elaborate reception on November 7, the anniversary of the Communist revolution. There are usually about a thousand people at the reception, the number of “regrets” has been estimated at 50% of the invited. The Soviet Ambassador does not usually talk about politics unless instructed otherwise from Moscow.

Soviet Union - November 16, 1951 (OSA)

There is an activation of forces in Estonia since September 1951, when following the Soviet pattern, the association of voluntary aid to the army, the navy, and the air force was called into being. This association, known by the Soviet abbreviation DOSAAF, was formed by merging DOSARM (aid for the army), DOSFLOT (aid for the navy), and DOSAV (aid for the air force). Dosaaf is headed by the former leader of DOSFLOT, the Soviet Valentin Kovrigin. Dosaaf aims to contribute to the strengthening of the power of the Soviet armed forces, and to train DOSAAF’s forces for special assignments in case of war.

Soviet Union / Poland / US - November 16, 1951 (OSA)

Two jokes about the Polish delegation in the Kremlin and the US.

Soviet Union / FRG / Poland / Yugoslavia / Czechoslovakia / Romania / Greece - November 16, 1951 (OSA)

The Russian Committee for the Assistance to Red Army Deserters in Western Berlin publish a report of the activities between March and June 1951. According

to that report, the Committee arranged air passage to the West for more than 1,000 people. All assisted persons belonged to Red Army units. The Committee also assisted Poles, Latvians, Yugoslavs, Slovaks, Lithuanians, Romanians, and 2 Greeks to reach the Western hemisphere. All of them escaped Soviet Russian territory.

Hungary – November 14, 1952 (HC)

The Government is renewed. Mátyás Rákosi remains the Prime Minister. New ministers: József Györe (Interior), Erik Molnár (Foreign Affairs), Gyula Décsi (Justice), József Tisza (State Collection). Deputy Chairmen of the Council of Ministers: Ernő Gerő, Árpád Házi, István Hidas, Károly Kiss and Imre Nagy.

Hungary / Yugoslavia – November 15, 1952 (PVC)

The trial of Yugoslav agents on charges of espionage starts in Hungary.

Hungary / Bulgaria / USSR – November 15, 1952 (OSA)

On October 11 a few representatives of British workers' unions held a talk on their impressions of Hungarian workers' conditions. In their opinion, the health situation in Hungarian factories is better than in British factories. Hungarian miners enjoy a high standard of living, and do not need to strike. Moreover, workers can enjoy libraries, cultural centers, and vacation centers that were confiscated from capitalists. Similarly, positive accounts were delivered on Bulgaria and the USSR.

Yugoslavia / France / U.S. / U.K. – November 15-20, 1952 (PVC)

Military talks between General Thomas T. Handy and the Yugoslav Government take place in Belgrade in order to co-ordinate Western and Yugoslav defense plans.

Romania / Yugoslavia – November 16, 1952 (PVC)

Romania sends a note of protest to Yugoslavia. According to the note, a serious incident took place at the Iron Gate on the Danube. The crew of a Yugoslav tug boat seized a Romanian ship and held the crew captive.

Hungary / Yugoslavia – November 17, 1952 (HC)

The Budapest City Court finds the Yugoslav Ambassador's Deputy guilty of helping illegal immigrants enter Hungary. He is deported from the country.

Soviet Union / Bulgaria – November 19, 1952 (OSA)

Trading between Bulgaria and the Soviet Union has become sparser since 1950 when most of the Bulgarian goods were exported to the Soviet Union. Large amounts of machinery used to be unloaded from Soviet ships. On other hand, in 1952, the director of Burgas harbor establishes a competition among workers to force them to fulfill their tasks.

Soviet Union / US - November 19, 1951 (OSA)

In 1939, Molotov stated that Sovietization of the Baltic states will not happen. Less

than 8 months later, these countries were overrun by the Soviets. Stalin stated in 1950 that the Soviet Union has no intention of attacking the USA or any other state.

Soviet Union - November 19, 1951 (OSA)

Seemingly, 22-24% of the pupils in the Latvian schools fail in Auce, Kandava, and Bauska. Part of the responsibility for these failures is put upon the Komsomol organization, which is blamed for overburdening the children.

Soviet Union - November 19, 1951 (OSA)

Latvian Communist press castigates at least 22 enterprises for not fulfilling their norms for August and September 1951.

Soviet Union - November 19, 1951 (OSA)

Reportedly, buses in Riga are in poor condition and are frequently late. The roads are in still worse conditions. Despite repeated complaints both from the bus drivers and the passengers, nothing is done to improve the streets.

Soviet Union / US - November 19, 1951 (OSA)

A virtual exhibit featuring large-scale maps with exact locations of all concentration and slave-labor camps in the Eastern European countries, now under Soviet domination, is opened to the public by the Common Cause, Inc., a national American citizens' organization to combat Communism, in New York. The exhibit is planned and arranged by the International Women's Division of Common Cause, Inc., a group of women who escaped to the US from all the countries now behind the Iron Curtain, and of American women with ancestry coming from those territories. Their purpose is to inform the American women of the true conditions and the degradation of life under Soviet rule.

The Soviet Union / China – November 20, 1952 (OSA)

Three students receive a scholarship to continue their education in Red China. The first is Georgi, a Communism-inclined person. In his earlier student years, he was a leader of Rabotnicheski Mladeski Sayus or Workers' Youth Union. After the Communist coup, he became a Communist supporter and soon received a scholarship for a Moscow university. The second is Vele Velyu, who became leader of the DSNM in 1949. He soon received a scholarship for a Leningrad University and left for the Soviet Union. The last is a young man named Resilovsky Lenin. To avoid trouble, he changed his name to Lencho during high school. In 1945, he enrolled at Sofia University and became chief informer of the SDNM.

Romania – November 20, 1952 (OAS)

According to the document, the Elena Pavel textile factory in Bucharest declares its first Stakhanovist worker Serban Cherghins, who had exceeded the norm in performance. This is a result of continuous pressure to perform better, as there are talks regarding the achievements of USSR Stakhanovist workers and the advanced methods they had come up with. However, these "tactics" by the communists

seemingly do not compel the workers to work harder, as they would not reap any “benefits.” The workers also point to the inefficient tools that cause delays in their work, which make it impossible to become Stakhanovists.

Poland – November 20, 1952 (PSN)

Bierut is appointed Prime Minister by the Diet. Before this he had been referred to as “the first representative of the Polish nation in the Diet”, “the helmsman of People's Poland” and “the beloved leader of the nation.” The press informs readers that he had been the principle author of the Six-Year Plan.

Soviet Union / Italy - November 22, 1951 (OSA)

The Soviet Commercial Mission in Rome purchases large quantities of almonds. The first shipment of 500 tons is bought through the Communist-controlled export-import agency Italcoop.

Soviet Union / Italy / FRG / US / Bulgaria / Poland - November 22, 1951 (OSA)

Reportedly, all Soviet officers in Italy received a circular containing anti-Soviet statements like “you must not be a slave of Stalinism” and “do you know that the Stalinist executioners have no pity for anyone...”. The signatures at the end of the circular indicated that it was sent by the National Workers’ Union, which is composed of 5 anti-bolshevik Parties and was founded in Stuttgart in August 1951. Its newspaper *Possev* (The Seed) is printed at Limburg, in the American zone of Germany. The Soviet diplomats are invited to join the organization.

Czechoslovakia / Romania / Italy / Poland / Bulgaria – November 24, 1952 (OSA)

In August 1952, five Italian citizens are expelled from Poland and Bulgaria altogether. These citizens arrived in Udine at the collection and clearing center. In July 1952 the last 22 people got transported from Romania to Italy. In August the bus holding new passengers had to return to Bucharest. According to rumors, Romanian institutions deferred the expulsion of the Italians due to the fact that they were usually interviewed by the journalists. Italian citizens were spreading negative news about the situation in Romania.

Hungary – November 26, 1952 (OSA)

A Night Technical Academy established in 1949 has problems in training technicians badly needed for the Hungarian industry. Students are supposed to attend classes in the evening after work, but they are understandably tired and have problems in paying attention. Classes last from 3 pm to 8 pm every weekday, from Monday to Friday, making it a weekly 25-hour class load. Even preparatory courses prove insufficient. The dropout rate is relatively high.

Czechoslovakia – November 20-27, 1952 (REV)

In the Slánský trial in Czechoslovakia, high-ranking party and state leaders are

accused of Trotskyism, Titoism, spying and Zionism. Fourteen prisoners are condemned to death and three receive life sentences.

Hungary – November 21, 1952 (HC)

A celebration at the National Military Theater in Budapest is organized to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the birth of the poet Endre Ady. József Révai and György Bölöni give speeches.

Poland – November 21, 1952 (PSN)

Bierut presents the Sejm with his Government and states that he would fight “all agencies of hostile imperialist centers.”

Hungary – November 22, 1952 (HC)

The renovated Petőfi Bridge is opened in Budapest.

Hungary – November 22, 1952 (HC)

The Opera House in Budapest presents *A huszti kaland* (“The adventure in Huszt”) by Pál Kadosa.

Yugoslavia / Greece – November 23-December 1, 1952 (PVC)

A Greek military mission visits Yugoslavia. Tito receives the delegation on **November 25**. At the first meeting, the Yugoslavs propose the co-ordination of concrete military planning.

Hungary – November 24, 1952 (HC)

Statutory rule 1952:20 by the Hungarian Presidential Council dissolves the Economic Council. The Council of Ministers will take over their responsibilities from **December 1**.

Hungary / Yugoslavia – November 25, 1952 (PVC)

In connection with the trial of espionage which started on **November 15**, Hungary expels the Yugoslav Chargé d'Affaires from the country. In response, Yugoslavia also expels the Hungarian Chargé d'Affaires on the following day.

Hungary / Yugoslavia – November 26, 1952 (HC)

Hungarian-Yugoslav memorandums are exchanged regarding the deportation of the Yugoslav Ambassador's Deputy on **November 17**.

Soviet Union /Estonia – November 28, 1952 (OSA)

The Volta electrical engine enterprise is considered exemplary in the Soviet Union. Its former managing director Heil Johannes was decorated with the Stalin prize in 1951. His successor, the Soviet Petshenev, is widely respected and often decorated. However, Petshenev allegedly forges his production reports. The newspaper *Rahva Haal* exposes this situation.

Soviet Union - November 28, 1951 (OSA)

Pavel Jnkov Litvinov's son, born in 1900, is one of the secretaries of the central committee of the Latvian Communist Party. Aleksei Pavel Tchernischev's son is elected secretary of the central committee of the Latvian Communist Party in spring 1951.

Soviet Union / Vatican - November 29, 1951 (OSA)

The Vatican is informed that the Lithuanian Catholic Bishop of Telsiasi, Mons. Borisevicius, was shot by the Soviet authorities on February 22, 1946. The Soviets permit the opening of the Latin Seminary in Kaunas. Of the 500 petitions, only 150 are accepted. The needs of 3 million believers must be satisfied, and there are only 500 priests to do the job. The clergy are strictly surveyed and are not permitted any activities outside the church. Churches are overcrowded, many of them pay special high taxes for the maintenance of the clergy.

Soviet Union / US / Austria - November 29, 1951 (OSA)

Peter Pirogov, the Soviet flier who escaped in an army plane from Ukraine 3 years ago with Anatol Barsov, marries in Washington on November 9, 1951, exactly 3 years to the day after his escape. Pirogov, now in the US Air Force and living in Washington married a 25 year old Russian DP, Valentina Burnos. She arrived to the United States 18 months ago from an SP camp in Austria, where she had taken refuge rather than return to the USSR, after her liberation from the Nazi captors.

Soviet Union / Italy - November 29, 1951 (OSA)

According to information from Italian firms dealing with the Soviet Commercial Mission in Rome, the amount of the non-paid bills or credits not yet opened for contracts already signed is about 6,000,000 \$. To cover these debts, the Soviets recently sell grain to Italy for about 10,000,000 \$.

Yugoslavia / Vatican – November 29, 1952 (ACY)

The Vatican issues a list of new cardinals in which the name of Archbishop Stepinac appears. The Vatican's step takes places on Yugoslavia's National Day (Stella)

Romania – November 30, 1952 (PIR)

Elections for the Grand National Assembly are won by the Front of Popular Democracy with 98,84%.

December 1952**Yugoslavia / Greece / Turkey – December 1952 (HWC)**

Turco-Yugoslav and Graeco-Yugoslav talks are held in Belgrade.

Yugoslavia / Austria / Italy– December 1952 (HWC)

The Yugoslavs state their recognition of the strategic connection between the Julian Alps and the defense of Italy and Austria.

Poland / Iran - December 1952 (OSA)

A trade agreement with a volume of nearly 22 million Złoty per year is reportedly signed between Poland and Iran.

Czechoslovakia – December 3, 1952 (PLC)

Rudolf Slansky and his 10 associates are sentenced to death in Czechoslovakia at the end of an anti-Semitist trial which started on **November 22**.

Hungary – December 3, 1952 (HC)

Nationwide commemorations start on the 25th anniversary of the death of the poet, Attila József.

Poland / Sweden - December 3, 1952 (OSA)

The Polish-Swedish trade agreement about coal-contingents is extended until March 1, 1953.

Soviet Union - December 3, 1951 (OSA)

All Eastern European news agencies have a room reserved for their correspondents in the Palais de Chaillot. On the third floor, one room is reserved for the Soviet news agency. However, the TASS mass production of the “news” is done outside the building. As after the statements of the teletype employees and others handling the facilities operating for the world press, these facilities are never used by the Soviets and other eastern European pressmen. The TASS reports are filled at the Soviet Embassy, where every afternoon a briefing is held for satellite correspondents attached to the United Nations. The satellite Press is sending their material via their Embassy channel.

Soviet Union - December 4, 1951 (OSA)

According to a former Soviet railroad worker, the Soviet railroad system is the weakest link in the Soviet economy. The German locomotives taken during and after the war do not do away with the shortage of rolling stock, because these cars have only limited use in the USSR, as there is a 9-cm difference in Soviet and German gauges. The German cars, therefore, are only used on short industrial lines in the Urals between the factories and the railroad stations. As a result, the Soviet factories are often without coal or raw materials, because of the delay in rail transportations. It is worse for passenger trains. Regular citizens often need to wait more than a week before they can buy a ticket. Moreover, there are bans on traveling to certain cities. For instance, a regular citizen can't go to the capital cities of the 16 Soviet republics, or the 4 “heroic” cities of Leningrad, Stalingrad, Odessa, and Sevastopol without special permission. Traveling from Leningrad to Estonia is also forbidden.

Soviet Union - December 5, 1951 (OSA)

Novorossiysk, on the Eastern shores of the Black Sea, is reportedly a neglected town in the USSR. This town with 6,000 people was greatly ruined during the war. The inhabitants look miserable and there is only one store in town, where products of poor quality are sold. The beach and the harbor are also neglected after the war.

Soviet Union / GDR - December 5, 1951 (OSA)

According to a German informant, a large number of German specialists return from the USSR to their homes in Eastern Germany in 1951. The informant and his German colleagues had to make plans for the construction of the Soviet naval bases in several Baltic ports. According to the informant, the Soviets are planning to block off the entire Baltic Sea as far out as Rugen island, and they are preparing for a naval assault and for occupying the islands of Gotland and Bornholm. Thus, they would be able to turn the Baltic into a strategic Soviet inland sea base.

Romania – December 5, 1952 (PIR)

Verification committees for the “counterrevolutionary” detainees and for those interned in penitentiaries, camps and labor colonies begin their activity.

Hungary – December 6, 1952 (HC)

Statutory rule 1952:21 by the Hungarian Presidential Council establishes new ministries. The new ministers are: István Kossa (General Machine Industry), Tibor Erdey-Grúz (Higher Education), Gergely Szabó (Chemical Industry).

Czechoslovakia – December 6, 1952 (OSA)

The Ministry of Mining Industry issued an order in the autumn of 1951. The order states that the land of Opava-Katerinky must not be cultivated due to the planned opening of a new mine. This plan was abandoned the very next year, which created new problems for the farmers. The farmers whose lands were involved in the plan introduced by the Ministry of Mining Industry still have to cope with the same delivery quotas as everyone else.

Soviet Union - December 6, 1951 (OSA)

The majority of the people of the Dundaga rayon in Latvia are deported because they were living too close to the coast. Because of that, people from Rezekne area kolkhozes have to work for the Dundaga rayon, too.

Soviet Union / UK / US - December 6, 1951 (OSA)

A report on Aleksander Morozov, a member of the Soviet delegation and an expert in financial stabilization.

Soviet Union - December 6, 1951 (OSA)

According to an informant, there is a catastrophically bad harvest in Kaliningrad. As a result, this winter the entire population of East Prussia must be fed with food coming from the USSR and elsewhere.

Soviet Union - December 6, 1951 (OSA)

While Estonians suffer from shortages in every field, their industrial enterprises are working at top capacity to meet the large orders from the Soviets. Usually, all particulars about Estonian deliveries to the Soviet Union are considered top secret to engage the Estonian population. A lot of Estonian factories, such as Ilmarine, Laevatehas, Luther & Co., etc., are delivering goods to different cities in the USSR.

Soviet Union - December 6, 1951 (OSA)

A short report on a member of the Belarussian SSR delegation P. E. Astapenko.

Soviet Union - December 7, 1951 (OSA)

A detailed list of the members of the Supreme Council of the Soviet Republic of Latvia.

Soviet Union - December 7, 1951 (OSA)

According to radio Tallinn, 60 floodlights are directed at the monuments of Stalin, Lenin, Kalinin, Kingisepp, and Lauristin, the latter two being prominent Estonian Communists.

Soviet Union / Syria / Romania - December 7, 1951 (OSA)

Seemingly, the Cominform is planning to invite about 100 picked Arabic-speaking Orthodox youths from Lebanon, Syria, and Arab Palestine to study at the Orthodox Theological Seminary in Bucharest. The invited youth will ostensibly be the guests of the pro-Communist Patriarch Justinian of Romania, whereas in reality their expenses will be paid by the Cominform. They will attend theological classes and will study Marxism-Leninism. The Muslims from Middle Eastern Arab countries are also invited to study Islam in various Islamic centers of the Soviet Turkestan. They will also be subject to Marxist-Leninist indoctrination.

Soviet Union December 8, 1951 (OSA)

Tallinn's City Council announces that in the fall of 1952 an extensive "gasification" of the city will take place. Apartment houses will be supplied with gas for domestic use. Tallinn's radio describes the gas supply project as tremendous progress and a step forward in the development of the city. What is not mentioned is that before the Soviet occupation Estonians rejected gas stoves, and most of them were replaced by electric stoves.

Soviet Union - December 8, 1951 (OSA)

Latvia's railroads, often considered one of the best in the USSR, are in a deplorable state, according to Graudins K, the head of the political department in the Latvian railroad. He charges the workers of the railroad with lack of work discipline and neglect. The result of this is ill-use of the rolling stock, delays of trains, lack of care for the workers, increased accident rate. To deal with these faults, Graudins points out that the force of 200 special supervisors has to be increased substantially. They will control the work discipline.

Soviet Union / France December 8, 1951 (OSA)

A short report on professor S. P. Alexandrov, an atopic scientist from the USSR and advisor at the United Nations Atomic Commission.

Soviet Union December 8, 1951 (OSA)

The Fourth Baltic Fleet is a Soviet fleet on the Baltic Sea which can be found in Baltyisk, which is the strongest Soviet naval base, which has both sea units and marines. The Fourth Baltic Fleet has no battleships. The cruisers Kirov and Maxim Gorkij are stationed in Baltyisk and are the largest ships on the Fourth Fleet. There are also 6 destroyers there. Baltyisk is isolated from the Sanbia peninsula, and people can enter the district of Baltyisk only with a special permit. The commanding officer of the Baltyisk garrison is major Kotchkin.

Romania – December 8-10, 1952 (PIR)

The National Congress for the Defense of Peace opens its works.

Hungary / Soviet Union / U.S. – December 10, 1952 (LBC)

In a diplomatic note the U.S. demands that Hungary and the Soviet Union return the C-47 type aircraft forced to land on **November 19, 1951** or pay \$100,000 in compensation.

Soviet Union - December 10, 1951 (OSA)

The regular length of service in the Soviet Navy is 4 years. However, some seamen serve for 6-7 years and cannot get a demobilization order from the Navy. Seamen are better paid than soldiers, they have better food and wear a better uniform.

Soviet Union / France - December 10, 1951 (OSA)

A short report on the Members of the Soviet Delegation to the United Nations.

Soviet Union - December 10, 1951 (OSA)

A report on 11 members of the Ukrainian Delegation to the United Nations General Assembly.

Soviet Union - December 10, 1951 (OSA)

In the "Leime" Underwear Factory in Kaunia, Lithuania, there are about 3,000 employees, most of whom are women. The working hours are 8-hour daily shifts, for which an ordinary worker receives 300 rubles per month. There is, however, a snag in the working arrangements, because extra hours must be put in to make up for the time lost on holidays. The overtime hours are not paid for. Instead, workers receive a certificate on one of the Communist holidays, in which they are praised for their diligence.

Soviet Union - December 10, 1951 (OSA)

At the beginning of December 1951, a major accident happened in a gas-producing mine in the area of Kohtla Jarve in Estonia, according to unconfirmed reports from

there. The gas from this mine is supplied to the Leningrad industrial district. The disaster, which caused the death of 200 workers, was due to the fact that in the mine shafts all props were old and rotten. As a result, three tunnels collapsed, killing teams of workers. According to the sailors from Estonia, this accident is only one of a number of catastrophes that occurred in the mines near Kohtla Jarve.

Soviet Union - December 10, 1951 (OSA)

According to a refugee and a former Soviet seaman, the flagship of the Soviet Fourth Fleet “Angora” is a 3,000-ton ship, consisting of 6 officers and 143 sailors. The commanding officer is Captain Brovkin. The “Angora” is stationed in Baltiysk, but very often she goes on inspection tours all along the Baltic coast, as far as Warnemuende.

Soviet Union - December 10, 1951 (OSA)

During August 1951, 300 Lithuanian workers were sent for training to Voronezh. This center is supposedly used for training workers from Baltic countries and Belarus. On October 30, 1951, after the training period was over, the head of the center proposed to the Lithuanians the “voluntary acceptance” of a contract for work for 3 years on dams in Turkmenia. Lithuanian circles in exile believe that this is a new method of “voluntary deportation” from Lithuania to remote parts of the Soviet Union.

Yugoslavia / U.K. – December 10, 1952 (PVC)

The Archbishop of Canterbury addresses Tito's forthcoming visit in his speech and expresses hope on the improving British-Yugoslav relations, but also sympathizes with the grievances of the Christian churches and faith.

Soviet Union – December 11, 1952 (OSA)

During the spring of 1950, Soviet boats weighing 6-700 gross tons arrive at Stalin harbor every 10-15 days. They are carrying saltpeter sacks weighing 50 kilograms each. The saltpeter is sent from Stalin harbor in two ways: on military trucks and on two horse carts. The finished product – gunpowder - is packed in heavy wooden boxes and is always loaded onto trains at night.

Soviet Union / Finland – December 11, 1952 (OSA)

Thanks to a five-year trade agreement between the Soviet Union and Finland, the percentages of exchange goods between the two countries increase sharply. In the first two-year period, Finland focuses on exporting industrial products and timber to the Soviet Union. Finland provides the USSR ships, cranes, etc., while the USSR provides Finland wheat, gasoline, and material for shipbuilding.

Soviet Union / Romania / Poland / Israel - December 11, 1951 (OSA)

On December 10, 1951, a train leaves Warsaw via Lodz to Constanza, Romania, with 50 Jewish families who received permission to emigrate to Israel, after waiting for 2 years. Since the train passed the Polish-Soviet frontier, nothing has been heard

of the emigrants. Jewish circles in Warsaw fear that they were all deported to Kazakhstan.

Hungary – December 12, 1952 (HC)

The Katona József Theater in Budapest presents the *Fáklyaláng* (“Torch flame”) by Gyula Illyés.

Soviet Union / Sweden / Denmark / Norway / Finland - December 12, 1951 (OSA)

Seemingly, the Soviets try to revitalize East-West trade. Since the spring of 1951, the Soviet Embassies in Stockholm, Copenhagen, Oslo, and Helsinki arrange weekly luncheons with prominent local businessmen. Under Soviet pressure, Finnish businessmen approach the head of the Swedish Cooperatives, and submit the Soviet plan for establishing a European “Honkong” in either Helsinki or Leningrad. This would provide a neutral trading ground between East and West. The USSR favors Leningrad. Scandinavians express suspicion that this Soviet attempt at East-West trade is to loosen the ties of the Atlantic Pact community and to attempt to make Western Europe more dependent on trade with the Soviet-controlled countries.

Soviet Union December 12, 1951 (OSA)

A new high school for the training of “Agro-Zoo-Technicians” - instructors and engineers of agriculture and cattle breeding - is opened on September 1, 1951 in Tartu, according to Baltic sources. Candidates who apply for admission to the school must first be approved by the Communist Party. Then their applications are sent to a commission from Moscow. The result of this double screening is that of the 380 students admitted the first year, only 150 Estonians are accepted by the Moscow Commission.

Yugoslavia / U.K. – December 13, 1952 (PVC)

Vladimir Velebit is officially announced as the new Yugoslav Ambassador to the U.K.

Soviet Union December 13, 1951 (OSA)

The *Christian Science Monitor* of November 24, 1951, features an article by Wohl Paul which states that for the first time since 1917 the Communist Party addresses among others the intelligentsia of the Soviet Union. According to a recent estimate, at least 60% of the 7,000,000 Party members belong to this group. The recognition of this group as one of the pillars of the Soviet State highlights the fact that the USSR government has become more dependent upon the support of its bureaucracy than upon that of the proletariat and peasants.

Soviet Union December 13, 1951 (OSA)

A report on the personalities of the Lithuanian Communist Party from December 13, 1951.

Yugoslavia / India – December 14, 1952-January 12, 1953 (RYN)

A Yugoslav Goodwill Mission, headed by Rodoljub Čolaković, then member of the Federal Executive Council, visits India.

Bulgaria – December 14, 1952 (OSA)

Administrative elections are held with a single candidate on each ballot. There is one single ballot for the election of one community, one for the District, and one for the Provincial Deputy to the Councils of the Working People.

Soviet Union December 14, 1951 (OSA)

A report on the personalities from the Latvian Ministry of Interior affairs from December 14, 1951.

Hungary – December 15-20, 1952 (HC)

Law 1952:V and Law 1952:VI are accepted regarding the state budget and state statistics.

Poland / U.S. – December 15, 1952 (PSN)

A propaganda exhibition called “*Such is America*” opens at the old arsenal building in Warsaw. The exhibition claims to “unmask the true face of the governing clique of imperialist heirs of slave traders and exploiters of black and white slaves.”

Soviet Union – December 15, 1952 (REV)

Lieutenant General Nikolai Vlasik, commander of Stalin’s bodyguard, is arrested. At the end of the month, State Security Minister Viktor Abakumov, General and ‘their band of Zionist agents’ are arrested.

Czechoslovakia / France – December 16, 1952 (OSA)

The Franco-Czech Association whose President is General Faucher is organizing an official meeting on December 9-10 to discuss the Prague Trial.

Yugoslavia / U.K. / Vatican – December 16, 1952 (PVC)

Tito delivers a long speech at Smederevska Palanka criticizing the policy of the Vatican and the appointment of Archbishop Stepinac as Cardinal. He also mentions that because of the public protests, he would rather cancel his visit to the U.K.,.

Yugoslavia / Vatican – December 16, 1952 (ACY)

Cardinal Oddi, Chargé d’Affaires of the Vatican legation to Yugoslavia is summoned to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. There he is told that since no answer had been received to the Yugoslav Government’s note, and instead Stepinac was made cardinal, it was obvious that the Vatican did not wish for improved relations. Therefore, there was no further reason to maintain diplomatic relations.

Hungary – December 17, 1952 (HC)

Decree 1050/1952 by the Hungarian Council of Ministers announces that **May 2** will be a national holiday, but **December 26** will be a normal work day.

Yugoslavia / Vatican – December 17, 1952 (KCA)

The Yugoslav Government breaks diplomatic relations with the Vatican and presents a note to the papal Charge d’Affaires in Belgrade alleging Vatican “interference in Church-State relations”, in particular protesting the elevation of Archbishop Stepinac to the College of Cardinals.

Hungary – December 19, 1952 (HC)

The Third Hungarian Fine Arts Exhibition is opened. The central theme of the exhibition is the life and achievements of Rákosi.

Hungary – December 19, 1952 (OSA)

In 1952, in Hungary two “Christmases” are celebrated: the Christian Christmas and the Communist Christmas. The “Communist Christmas” is organized in schools, and is called the “feast of the Fire Tree.” By contrast, parents prepare the Christian Christmas for their children in the privacy of their homes. At schools, children decorate the trees with red paper stars and recite poems praising Stalin. Plays are staged made to celebrate Stalin’s birthday, with Russian dances included.

Czechoslovakia / Poland / North Korea – December 20, 1952 (OSA)

For quite some time the Polish industrial center has been employing good number of women from Red China and North Korea. The Polish food situation is worsening, and the opponent authorities are said to intensify the meat portions slightly. In Zakopane and Nowy Targ districts some underground groups are gathering a lot, and it is rumored that they often meet with Slovak anti-communists. Due to these rumors, the CP in Slovakia is extremely worried and watches suspected anti-communists, one of which is Benada Ludovit.

Hungary – December 21, 1952 (HC)

The first mechanized foundry in the country is put in operation at the Salgótarján Iron Foundry and Furnace Factory.

Czechoslovakia / Italy – December 23, 1952 (OSA)

The legislative institutions of countries behind the iron curtain in Rome are interested to procure the history of Italian Red Cross in order to have it translated in their individual languages. Rumors have spread about satellite countries planning to open a general offensive against the international Red Cross, to showcase the ineffectiveness of the organization. Additionally, this confrontation may target the actions of the Red Cross at the Korean front.

Albania – December 23, 1952 (OSA)

The News Bureau in Paris outlines the dominance of the Communist “enterprise”

in Albanian life – specifically Stalinism. Allegedly, the sad Albanian people hope for salvation through war. Close surveillance, tight obedience to Moscow and the Workers' Party, and the former criminal membership of the latter are claimed. Food shortages and continuing socio-cultural Sovietisation are observed.

Albania – December 23, 1952 (OSA)

An Albanian living in Janina describes Soviet agents directing all areas of life, including mining organizations. There are no labor protections due to “anti-social Soviet work systems,” which leads to exhaustion. Former tradesmen and industrialists, with their property and purpose expropriated, are left to starve. The Hoxha government continues to forcibly create agricultural cooperatives (kolkhozes), to which farmers are coerced to submit.

Albania – December 23, 1952 (OSA)

It is alleged that special courses for teaching modern scientific torture, used in the USSR, are beginning to be taught by Soviet agents in Albania. Methods used include electrocution, partial-asphyxiation, psychological and physiological manipulation to torture “enemies of the people.” Although unconfirmed in Albania, such practices are evidenced in the USSR.

Albania / Greece – December 23, 1952 (OSA)

It is claimed that 450 Greeks, delivered by Greek Communist partisans, are imprisoned in the Albanian concentration camp of Gose, Lushnje. They have rationed a piece of cornbread and some soup. In August 1952, Greek soldiers Antoine Lambros and Jean de Deskati Cachlithreas escaped the camp, being imprisoned since the Greek Civil War in 1949.

Albania – December 24, 1952 (OSA)

In September, a member of the Paris News Bureau observes ten Albanian airfields (Tirana, Korce, Shkoder, Vlone, Gjirokaster, Kavaje, Devali-Berat, Kukes, Peshkopye, Lesh).

Albania – December 24, 1952 (OSA)

There are purportedly six radio stations in Albania (Tirana, Korce, Shkoder, Gjinokaster, Vlone, Stalin). Only Tirana can be heard abroad, due to its Soviet augmentation.

Albania – December 24, 1952 (OSA)

Apart from the previously-confirmed “A Day of Peace,” a source lists Soviet Films in Albania: *Soviet Latvia*, *Victorious Return*, *The Battleship Potemkin*, *Unveiled Love*, *Our Indispensable Bread*, and *Soviet Kazakhstan*.

GDR / Soviet Union / FRG - December 26, 1951 (OSA)

The Soviet Control Commission in East Germany dedicates 12 million marks to finance sabotage actions in Western Germany. 300,000 marks are been given to

Communist agents in Hamburg, Emden, and Kiel to prepare strikes among the masses. So far, there are no results. Other funds are been sent to Communist agitators in various parts of northern West Germany.

Hungary – December 27, 1952 (OSA)

Hungarians are reported to have very vague ideas about European unification.

GDR / Soviet Union - December 27, 1952 (OSA)

The Soviet Government reject 700 new East German automobiles built by the German nationalized concern “Eisenacher Motorenwerke” (former BMW). The cars are returned to East Germany because of “defective production.”

Soviet Union / Italy – December 30, 1952 (OSA)

The Soviet Commercial Commission in Italy purchases large quantities of lemons, laurel leaves, orange, and lemon peel. This trading activity may have also a political goal, since many of these agricultural products come from Sicily, and the Communists are eager to expand their influence there. Chemicals are also in great demand.

Hungary / Spain – December 31, 1952 (HC)

The Foreign Minister announces in a telegram to UNESCO that Hungary will leave the organization in order to protest against the membership of Spain.

Soviet Bloc / U.S. – December 31, 1952 (LBC)

President elect Eisenhower, in a message to the youth living behind the Iron Curtain declares that they are “not forgotten”.