

CARDINAL CHARGES CZECH SLAVE RULE

Thousands of Hungarians Are Used as Forced Laborers, Primate Alleges

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

BUDAPEST, Hungary, Tuesday, Jan. 7 — Joseph Cardinal Mindszenty, Catholic Primate of Hungary, said today in an interview in the archiepiscopal city of Esztergom that Czechoslovakia had brought back what amounted to slavery and slave markets into the life of Europe.

Tens of thousands of Hungarians in Slovakia have been taken from their homes to forced labor in Bohemia and the Sudeten region, the Cardinal said. He added:

"Slavery has existed longer than anywhere else on the Upper Nile, but now it has moved to the Danube. Under the Roman Empire men were sentenced to work in mines, and now the same thing is found in Czechoslovakia.

"These human beings are being considered not as human beings but merely as objects. What amounts to a slave market has been established because Hungarians are brought to towns and mine operators and farmers come and take men for their purposes.

"Though wages are paid, the men cannot refuse to work at the job for which they are picked. Those left over are taken to another gathering place and are offered to another proprietor. Such markets have been established at Kolin, Pilsen and other localities throughout the Sudeten area.

"From Dec. 28 to Jan. 2 deportations of Hungarians from Slovakia ceased, but were resumed Jan. 3. A new re-Slovakization campaign was started on Dec. 10. From Nov. 16 to Dec. 19 deportations were under way from two to three villages daily.

Pointing across the river from the window of the episcopal palace to the Slovak shore, the Cardinal said that 200 families had been removed from the town of Parkan on the other side. He continued:

"The great powers should re-examine the frontiers. If they take the Atlantic Charter and the human rights involved seriously and do not regard it merely as a scrap of paper, they should re-examine the whole problem. Besides the frontier problem, the issue of deportation should be examined by nonpartisan observers such as delegates of the great powers. If outside observers go into the problem thoroughly, a solution can be found.

"The Hungarians are being handed over to industrialists and farmers exactly like slaves. The slave traffic of the nineteenth century has now come to this part of the world."

The Cardinal said the present frontier was "ethnically absolutely unjust." He reviewed the treatment of Hungarians in Slovakia since 1945 and said 106,000 children had been deprived of any schooling that year.

The New York Times

Published: January 7, 1947

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