

200,000 March by Rajk's Coffin As Hungary Honors Ex-'Traitors'

By The Associated Press.

BUDAPEST, Hungary, Oct. 6 —Approximately 200,000 Hungarians marched today before the coffins of Laszlo Rajk and three other top-ranking Communists who were executed seven years ago by their Communist rivals.

These men, taken from unmarked and dishonored graves, were given honorary reburial in a cemetery that is to become a national pantheon. They were executed in the Stalin era for alleged treason after having been convicted of plotting with Yugoslavia's President Tito and with United States intelligence services.

Earlier this year they were declared innocent and "rehabilitated." The man who forced their trial, Matyas Rakosi, a Stalinist, has been deposed as the Hungarian Communist party chief.

[In Vienna, Western diplomats expressed the opinion that the march of the crowd was a silent demonstration against communism.]

The exhumed bodies of Mr. Rajk, a former Foreign Minister; Maj. Gen. Gyeorgy Palfy, Dr. Tibor Szoenyi and Andras Szalai were placed on biers at the entrance of the Kossuth mausoleum in Budapest's central cemetery.

Mr. Rajk was a member of the Communist party's Politburo, General Palfy and Dr. Szoenyi were members of the party central committee and Mr. Szalai

Today's parade differed from Continued on Page 16, Column 1

The New York Times

Published: October 7, 1956

Copyright © The New York Times

HUNGARIANS PAY TRIBUTE TO RAJK

Continued From Page 1

was party organizer. All four were accused of having plotted with Marshal Tito and having been on the payroll of United States intelligence organizations. They confessed, were sentenced to death and executed in 1949.

Wives and children and other relatives of the executed Communists clustered around the coffins today in an icy wind. Mme. Julia Rajk, stony-faced widow of the one-time Foreign Minister, and her 8-year-old son Laszlo stood a little distance from the others. Former Premier Imre Nagy, expelled from the party by Rakosi, embraced Mme. Rajk and kissed her.

Members of the Hungarian Cabinet, led by President Istvan Dobi and Premier Andras Hegedus, attended the ceremony. Only the party's First Secretary, Erno Gero, was absent. He is reportedly still in the Soviet Union, where he has been conferring with the Soviet Communist party chief, Nikita S. Khrushchev, and Marshal Tito.

Speaking for the party and the Government, Deputy Premier Antal Apro said: "There never was a more tragic duty than ours, rehabilitating our dead comrades whom we cannot resurrect."

"We deeply regret that we believed in malicious slandering that led to their martyrdom," Mr. Apro said. "We have called to account and will call to account those who were responsible for their fate. Never again shall such monstrous things happen."

He assailed the "personality cult [a euphemism for one-man rule], Stalinist blunders and their imitations in Hungary."

The New York Times

Published: October 7, 1956

Copyright © The New York Times