

## REBELS FROM THE CAVE

### A STUDY OF THE FATE OF THE PROTAGONISTS OF ANTI-OCCUPATION ACTIVITIES IN 1969 IN NORTH BOHEMIA

*Lukáš Cvrček*

Using the example of the activities of three friends from the village of Bozkov na Semilsku the author depicts the social atmosphere of the twilight of the Prague Spring and the advent of “normalisation” (as the ensuing period of communist entrenchment is known). Lubomír Dolenský, Stanislav Doubek and Miroslav Jeník were definitely not reconciled to the occupation by Warsaw Pact forces in August 1968 or to the events that followed, and they made their opposition clear within the scope of the options open to them and to the best of their abilities. Opposition to the regime and the occupants came to a head at the time of the first anniversary of the occupation of Czechoslovakia, when they participated in demonstrations and clashes with the police and the People’s Militia, which resulted in subsequent police prosecution, ending in 1970 with a five-month prison sentence.

## A FEW SENTENCES

### THE LAST FIVE MONTHS OF THE COMMUNIST DICTATORSHIP FROM THE POINT OF VIEW OF THE “A FEW SENTENCES” PETITION

*Jiří Urban*

The “A Few Sentences” (Několik vět) petition was made public on Thursday, 29 June 1989 by the Radio Free Europe station in its “Events and Opinions” (Události a názory) evening programme, together with a selection of the names of the first signatories. The text was also broadcast on the same day by Voice of America and the BBC. The following day it was published in full by the Viennese daily newspaper Standard. Some international dailies then carried excerpts from the document. The independent East European Information Agency (Východoevropská informační agentura) provided information on the “A Few Sentences” petition in a report on 3 July 1989. The editors of the independent periodical Information on Charter 77 (Informace o Chartě 77) published the text in its July edition. The samizdat People’s News (Lidové noviny) printed the document in its summer double issue. The official press, represented by the “Red Truth” (Rudé právo) newspaper, did not publish “A Few Sentences” until after the change in social conditions, namely on 19 December 1989.

With its seven points, the “A Few Sentences” petition demanded the release of political prisoners, unrestricted freedom to assemble, the legalisation of independent initiatives, media that objectively provided information, the respecting of religious freedom, care for the environment, and the commencement of free discussions on the main issues of post-War Czechoslovak history. The petition was an open document and could be signed by anyone who agreed with its wording. Eventually, by November 1989 it had been signed by almost 40,000 people, and the number of signatures also increased after the fall of communism.

## JAN LOMOZ

### ONE OF THE SABOTEURS OF THE CZECH LEAGUE AGAINST BOLSHEVISM

### THE LIFE STORY OF JAN LOMOZ, THE WARTIME ADMINISTRATOR OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK (HUSSITE) CHURCH’S PRAGUE DIOCESE

*Martin Jindra*

Jan Lomoz was an important pre-War figure in the Prague diocese of the Czechoslovak (Hussite) Church. Naturally, the Second World War had a tragic impact on his fate. Because of his position, he came under Gestapo scrutiny after the occupation. After he failed to express sufficient or, indeed, any enthusiasm for his Church’s joining the ranks of the League against Bolshevism, he was arrested on the orders of Karl Herman Frank and imprisoned in a concentration camp. He managed to survive the War, albeit only by being lucky enough to overcome a serious illness, and he returned to Prague with a willingness to get involved in Church activities once more. Naturally, he was hugely disappointed to discover that the leadership of the Czechoslovak (Hussite) Church of that time was no longer interested in his services. Jan Lomoz ended up living out his days in seclusion. He died in March 1957.

## SUDDEN DEATHS IN DETENTION FACILITIES

### SEVERAL QUESTIONS SURROUNDING THE ISSUE, USING THE DEATH OF JOSEF HONS AS AN EXAMPLE

*Martin Tichý*

Against the backdrop of the fate of the peasant Josef Hons, who became an innocent victim of communist justice, the author reveals the mechanisms of this power as well as the means by which it operated through its security services, secret police, penal system and judiciary. This text is one of many forms of evidence demonstrating that communist “justice” simply did not respect basic ethical and Christian rules, which it naturally never endorsed. It also shows how this system also did not fulfil international agreements, such as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights that the UN adopted in December 1948 and which had been signed by the communist-led government. Josef Hons was wrongfully arrested and imprisoned. He died in a prison hospital in 1951 without anyone being held responsible for his death.