

THREE SURVEYS OF THE FATE OF WOMEN WHO SHOULD NOT BE FORGOTTEN

What women whose husbands were executed in the 1950s had to live through

Markéta Doležalová

In removing its opponents, the communist regime consistently abided by the principle of collective guilt, which it applied wholly to the families of those it executed or convicted for political reasons. It was primarily the wives of these people who were exposed to systematic pressure.

THE CROATIAN OPERATION

The resettlement of Croatian families from south Moravia to the Czechoslovak interior in the years

1947–1951

Milan Bárta

After the Second World War, Czechoslovak citizens of Croatian nationality were forcibly resettled out of three south Moravian border villages and dispersed among the population of Moravia. The resettlement was carried out in two stages in the years 1947 and 1948–1951. A number of problems accompanied the operation and property settlements with those who were displaced dragged on for many years. There was a coda to the entire case after 1989, but even then the matter could not be resolved to general satisfaction.

THE STORY OF ONE BOOK

Difficulties with the publication of “On the Western Front” and the subsequent reaction from soldiers who fought in the West

Ladislav Kudrna

The book *On the Western Front* by historians Toman Brod and Eduard Čejka was the first official history of its time to mention and describe in detail the participation of Czechoslovak soldiers in WWII, battles on the Allied side. Even though the book is far from objective and is also a long way from being a sufficiently comprehensive work, at the time the impact it had was akin to light appearing at the end of a (very long) tunnel.

THE CRISIS OF THE COMMUNIST SYSTEM IN POLAND DURING THE 1980s

Antoni Dudek

The wave of strikes in the summer of 1980 and the birth of the Independent Self-Governing Trade Union “Solidarity” helped precipitate the most profound crisis to affect the communist system in Poland. The establishment of Solidarity and its subsequent period of legal activity brought about fundamental changes in social consciousness. The break-up of Solidarity could not halt the economic, social and political processes that resulted in a chronic systemic crisis in the Polish People’s Republic and which ultimately led to its collapse.

THE GREAT MORAVIA FILM PROJECT

An example of communist nationalism

Petr Kopal

We often read and hear about nationalism in connection with post-communist countries, but were these states completely devoid of nationalism during the communist era? Although official Marxist-Leninist teaching viewed nationalism as a bourgeois attribute and placed it in opposition to proletarian internationalism, political practices were a lot more complex.

PICTURE OF A POLISH DECADE THE STORY OF A CZECH PHOTOGRAPHER AND HIS ARCHIVE

Petr Blažek

Ota Nепilý first arrived in Poland in 1981. He watched with fascination as an uprising occurred in Polish society which was ended several months later by General Wojciech Jaruzelski with the establishment of martial law. After it ended, the young photographer returned regularly to this neighbouring country.

OLDŘICH BURDA – HEAD OF MILITARY COUNTERINTELLIGENCE IN THE YEARS 1960–1968

Jan Michl

Portrait of someone who was head of military counterintelligence. It outlines his origins and education, the evolution of his ambitions, his career path to the top of his profession, and his fall from grace after the occupation of Czechoslovakia in 1968. The article clearly

shows what kind of people the communists chose, and indeed needed, for similar positions.

THE BAŤA OF CHOTĚBOŘ

A portrait of the factory owner, resistance fighter and émigré

Vilém Eckhardt

Radan Lášek

Vilém Eckhardt’s factory was not a branch of the Baťa group, as many people believe. Nonetheless, its owner had a lot in common with Tomáš Baťa. He also began with a workshop that had a few employees. Likewise, he considered his workers to be more like collaborators, and he prepared a social programme and facilities for them. Moreover, when the country was occupied, he put himself and his financial resources at the resistance’s disposal via Baťa’s foreign affiliates.

LET ALL THE DOWNTRODDEN UNITE AND OVERTHROW THIS COMMUNIST VERMIN!

The anti-communist pamphlets of the Freedom Fighters Movement from Velešínsko in south Bohemia

Jiří Řezníček

The south-Bohemian native Josef Krnínský was one of those people whose inner convictions would not allow him to identify with the totalitarian practices that were applied in Czechoslovakia after the communist putsch in February 1948. A number of archival materials found in the Security Services Archive testify to his clearly defined, lifelong stance towards the communist regime. Among these materials, there are also illegal pamphlets, which he published and distributed with his friends at the beginning of the 1950s.

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ÚSTR ČR vyjadruje politování nad tím, že byla v roce 2008 opakovaně porušena práva býv. zaměstnance Mgr. Pavla Palečka a tímto se mu omlouvá. Tato omluva je součástí mimosoudního vyrovnání.