

**This match he couldn't win.
On the 100th anniversary of the
birth of ice hockey goaltender
Bohumil Modrý**
Roman John

Who in today's young generation recognises the name Bohumil Modrý? In his time Modrý, who had film-star good looks, was regarded as the best goaltender in Europe. People who knew him personally described him as an honest and intelligent person with the manners of a gentleman. However, he wasn't born in the right time or in the right place. His life story tells of the breakup of a celebrated team, the first golden hockey generation in our sporting history. Our hockey survived that tough blow, although it was many years before it recovered. However, nobody could bring back the years the players had spent in prison. They were not rehabilitated until the Prague Spring period, which alas the gentleman in goal did not live to see.

**The house where Guevara lived.
The history of the "Countryside"
conspiratorial flat**
Prokop Tomek

The legendary Latin American revolutionary Ernesto "Che" Guevara's secret stay in Czechoslovakia sparked considerable interest at the time. However, the place where he lived has a far more interesting past.

**The executions of enemies of the
people's democratic economy**
Ivo Pejčoch, Jiří Plachý

The Communists' accession to power in 1948 brought a wave of persecution and trials with steep sentences for real and imagined opponents of the new regime. The most appalling acts of evil were the cases that resulted in the execution of one or more people. This study explores a unique group of the executed, including both victims of the regime and regular criminals. What they had in common was that they were in the dock for real and imagined crimes targeted at the economy of the Czechoslovak

Republic and ended their lives on the execution ground. The main reason for the draconian verdicts and executions was an effort to scare the public and foster society's hatred toward a class of traders "impoverishing the working people."

**Flight Lieutenant.
Václav Martínek – Victim of the
February coup**
Jiří Plachý

This paper focuses on the life story of Flight Lieutenant Václav Martínek (born 1903). A pre-war career officer in the Czechoslovak Army, Martínek left to join the resistance abroad in 1939/1940. He served with a Czechoslovak unit in France and after its defeat in the UK. In the years 1945–1947 he served at the headquarters of the Air Force Main Staff in Prague. At the time of the February coup he was head of the 2nd unit of the staff of the 2nd Air Corps in České Budějovice. During his service there he repeatedly made his anti-Communist views clear; this led to criminal charges being taken against him for political reasons on 25 February 1948, when he was also suspended from service. In this situation Lieutenant Martínek chose to depart this life voluntarily and on 29 February 1948 committed suicide near the České Budějovice airfield.

**Georgios Papanikas – The Greek
who the StB had disappeared**
Ondřej Hladík

The civil war in Greece, which caused great suffering to those fighting for both sides in the conflict, as well as the civilian population, sparked a wave of emigration to countries in the former Eastern Bloc. As early as 1948 a large group of children, who their parents often let go involuntarily, were sent abroad. They were followed by adult refugees who were sympathisers and supporters of the insurgents. When the conflict came to an end in 1949 that wave was followed by another large group, in the main comprising soldiers of the defeated Communist armed for-

ces. However, it wasn't just the "right" Greeks who arrived in Czechoslovakia, but also, involuntarily, captive soldiers of the Royal Army, who soon earned a reputation for being unreliable, problematic elements. One of them was Georgios Papanikas, for whom involuntary emigration became fateful.

**You're over economically, you're
over morally...**
**The anti-Communist letters
of Jaroslav Kaplan, 1954–1958**
Petr Mallota

One element of the anti-Communist resistance in the post-February 1948 period was the distribution of printed materials, be it in the form of various leaflet drives or the sending of "subversive" letters. Such illegal activities fulfilled a whole range of functions: from the simple surmounting of the totalitarian system's information monopoly and disruption of the regime's mass propaganda, through covert mobilisation and support for non-Communist sections of society, to the unsettling and intimidation of representatives of government power.

**The arrival of the Soviet POWs at
Horní Litvínov.**
**The photo album as a source
of documentation of forced labour**
Alfons Adam

On Thursday 9 July 1942 the first transport of Soviet POWs arrived at Horní Litvínov (Oberleutensdorf). In the archive of the petrochemical company Sudetenländische Treibstoffwerke AG (STW), which is held at the State District Archive in Litoměřice, specifically at its centre in Most, and contains among other items an extensive photography collection of over 32,000 photographs, a photo album has been preserved that documents the arrival of that transport. The STW photo archive, and in particular the album referred to, are extraordinarily valuable historical sources that do far more than depict forced labour.

