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Dear Friends,

MKCsBK Newsletter #43/44, July/October 2018.

The Royal Hungarian Gendarmerie in its time was known as one of the world's most outstanding and effective law enforcement bodies. Although the communist regime attempted to degrade its reputation with distortions, half-truths, exaggerations, and outright lies, recovered gendarmerie documents and books clearly reveal the moral standards and ethics that embodied the gendarmerie's service. One of these documents is the "gendarme ten commandments," which was composed by Márton vitéz Nemerey, the gendarmerie's commanding general, in 1940:

1. Remember what you owe your God
2. I am your homeland: Greater Hungary
3. Your faithfulness, your honor, your valor are not for sale.
4. Be moral, sober, obedient
5. Respect your superiors like your father; love your comrades like yourself
6. Learn and be knowledgeable; knowledge is your second weapon
7. Protect the property of others, and don't squander your own
8. The law is behind you, let it also be before you
9. Do not accuse unjustly; your weapon should not harm the innocent
10. The family is sacred; if you do not have one of your own, you'll find it in your garrison

What other organization was there, that held such ideals and standards? These certainly contributed to their world-renowned excellence. The quality and effectiveness of today's law-enforcement agencies would also greatly improve if they



Márton v. Nemerey, commanding general of the Hungarian Royal Gendarmerie, 1939-1942.

embraced these standards for themselves.

Last month, my wife and I visited Hungary. God blessed our trip in numerous ways. Besides visiting friends and family, we also met with gendarme relatives (wives, offspring, nieces and nephews), all of whom wholeheartedly support the idea of working together with Ópusztaszeri Nemzeti Történeti Emlékpark (ÓNTE) on the construction of a gendarme garrison building. Aradi-Beöthy Péter, whose films produced for the Kommunizmusbűnei.hu Foundation (Sins of Communism) are widely known, offered help in our so far futile efforts to open a bank account for the MKCsBK in Hungary. We deeply appreciate his kind offer, although in the end, we did not need to take advantage of it, as I will explain later. We also met with Attila Szathmáry, nephew of Károly Szathmáry gendarme captain, who originally established the MKCsBK collection in Canada. He joined us at the ÓNTE meeting as well, graciously offering the help of his printing business.

On August 16th, we met with ÓNTE officials: director Péter Kertész, historian Gábor Vincze, and their lawyer, accountant, and engineer representatives. Dr. József Parádi, SZBMRTT president, Dr. Viktor Parádi, lawyer, and Dr. Sándor Szakály, Veritas director, also joined us in this important meeting.

Previously, ÓNTE officials had visited all the buildings in Csongrád County that had at one time functioned as a gendarme garrison, as all buildings in the ÓNTE Skanzen (village museum) are replicas of buildings that existed in Csongrád County in the first half of the 20th Century. They have only found one qualifying building that had not undergone considerable renovation and for which the original blueprints still exist. We described this building in our [October 2017 Newsletter](#). The building, which was known as Marti Csárda before it was converted to a gendarme garrison in the early 1920s, now serves as a forest lodge.

Gendarme garrisons were usually located in the center of a village, if possible near the post-office telephone, and the government offices relevant to their work. In contrast, the above garrison was located near a Tisza ferry in the center of an expanse of small farms, because of the vast size of this farmland. Currently the ÓNTE Skanzen has two separate groups of farms, and they plan to place the garrison building between these two, further imitating the original situation of this particular gendarme garrison. After the meeting, we walked to the site of the planned building, and also met with the group of enthusiastic and knowledgeable young curators who are responsible for tending to the current garrison exhibit, so we could discuss various questions regarding it. It was a heart-stirring experience to see our progress towards the realization of the former gendarmes' cherished dream of a permanent museum.

Architectural research will reveal the original building's characteristics so the building can be authentically reconstructed, according to ÓNTE regulations. Then, they will need to acquire the various necessary assessments and permits (building, framework, fire safety, electrical, etc.), along with cost estimates.

The MKCsBK is providing the finances to cover the cost of acquiring these preliminary start-up documents, as these will be necessary to secure a grant, which will then hopefully provide the cost of the building itself. The building will house the current interactive exhibit and a permanent gendarme museum as well, which Hungary has not had since 1945. The authentic artifact material for the permanent museum will consist primarily of my private gendarme collection, which would be donated to ÓNTE on a 50-year loan. (The park does not own any of the exhibit materials). It is also our hope that the gendarme artifacts from the Toronto collection will also be loaned, which were donated to the Military and Historical Museum in Budapest in 2000, and are in storage there.

On behalf of the former gendarmes, I would like to express my deep appreciation for all those who, through their donations or otherwise, are making the startup of this historical gendarmerie museum a reality. We post up-to-date information on the pledged and submitted donations under the *News* section of our website. Of course, we are aware that various circumstances could arise that could stop the whole project, but we hope that with God's help we will prevail in our dream.

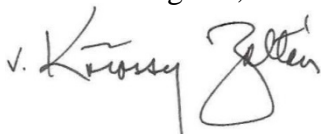
In our prior *Newsletters*, we shared with you how we were prevented from opening a bank account in Hungary. Our inability to overcome this obstruction was the cause for the delay of this *Newsletter*. Of course, donations made in dollars could always be sent to the MKCsBK's account in the US, or to us by check made out to the MKCsBK, but donations in Forints necessitates an account in Hungary to eliminate the large conversion fees that would be assessed by the banks. We also need the account to allow us to oversee the donations and the dispensing of funds, and to refund the donors in case the project would be thwarted for some unexpected reason, or to make sure that, with the donors' permission, those would be used for some other worthy gendarme project.

The problem with establishing an account eventually was resolved by ÓNTE. They were able to set up a sub-account for us that meets all our above needs. They would regularly share with us the information regarding donations, and the funds would only be dispensed by mutual agreement. But to meet EU requirements, ÓNTE can only share that information with us if the donors sign permission for ÓNTE to do so. So, instructions regarding this, and about donations in Forint, are included in our [Hungarian newsletter](#) (*Körlevél*). I also ask that all those who pledged support to send in their donations in the near future. And again, I would like to express my deep thanks to all those who pledged and contributed to this great cause.

Based on the events above, Péter Kertész on behalf of ÓNTE and myself on behalf of the MKCsBK have signed a contract. Acting upon that, ÓNTE already signed a contract with an architectural firm to prepare the aforementioned assessments and documents: the preparatory documents by October 29, and the permits by December 3. The process has started! We thank God and extend our appreciation to all who have in some way contributed to this whole process. This museum will help restore the honor of the Hungarian Royal gendarmes, many of whom underwent humiliation, degradation, torture, and even death in service to their homeland. Our former gendarmes' dream can finally become a reality!

It is with sadness I report the passing of Antal Török, gendarme NCO, June 30, in Australia, at age 105; Géza Bánkúty, an avid supporter of the gendarmerie as well as many noble Hungarian causes, May 24, 2018, in Holmes Beach, Florida, USA; and László Jegenyés, the son of the founder of the MKCsBK, March 2016, in Kentucky, USA. I wish to extend our sincere sympathy to the families.

With best regards,



Zoltan Korossy
MKCsBK Central Director

Hiven, becsülettel, vitézül