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Dear Friends,

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The poem below is from the pen of an unknown author. It memorializes a true event that took place in Western Hungary in 1945, as the Soviet hordes invaded the land. The gendarmes all gave their lives against unbeatable odds, to fulfill their oath of serving the nation "Faithfully, honorably and valiantly, onto death." In our age, many people do not understand this mentality, and even fewer agree with it.

Already in flames lay the ancient Bakony. The Tatár horde had reached Veszprém. But they stood their ground without orders, The rooster-feathered gendarme young men. - The rooster-feathered gendarme young men!

Only a rifle and attached bayonet, The Saint Crown pinned upon their chest. Incredibly, the patrol set off To faithfully execute their oath. - The rooster-feathered gendarme young men. In vain their pastor addressed them, "This is surely not God's will," But they continued patrolling the burning forest, The rooster-feathered gendarme young men, - The rooster-feathered gendarme young men!

Then one night the small village was invaded, Ran over by a horde of pagans. From the road which runs to the church atop the hill, Sounded the nine gendarme rifles. - Sounded the nine gendarme rifles.

Slowly they withdrew from tree to tree. By the time the houses burned to the ground, They died to their very last man, The rooster-feathered gendarme young men. - The rooster-feathered gendarme young men

And these were the men the communists made out to be the main enemy of the people, both in 1945 and again after the 1956 freedom fight. The communists saw them as a main obstacle in their way to power, so they persecuted them, pushed their families out of society, and tarnished their names with the full effort of communist propaganda. No wonder that after 50 years of this brainwashing of our nation, people who do not actively seek out the truth are still infected with falsified history and left with false ideas about the true nature and service of the gendarmes, negatively impacting our nation's present and future.

The hatred against the gendarmes is a sine qua none companion, and almost a symbol, of the hatred against civil society. Thus, the opinion about the gendarmerie are a part of the dividedness Hungary is experiencing, which affects the future of our nation. Learning the historical truth is therefore a duty and interest of everyone who cares about Hungary's future. But what can be done against the still-prevailing and destructive leftist lies?

The best weapon against lies is the revelation of the truth.

- To this end, truth-seeking historians in Hungary are researching the past of the gendarmerie, which was an integral part of the country's law-enforcement for 63 years. Unfortunately, research of this topic often still hurts their professional carriers.

- To this end, we created the <u>www.csendor.com</u> website in 2004, initially for the MKCsBK, but later narrowed to the Hungarian Royal Gendarmerie, where all available books, documents, and photos of the gendarmerie is found, freely searchable and downloadable without charge. Although the communists were seeking to destroy all this material in order to spread their own lies unhindered by truth, we were able to collect most of it from around the world where it had been scattered after WWII. So now, over 450 books and thousands of documents and photos can be found on the website, along with hundreds of biographies and biographical tidbits, speeches and interviews with gendarmes.

- To this end, we created a gendarme garrison exhibit in partnership with ÓNTE in 2016, and are supporting ÓNTE in building a gendarme garrison that would house both the current interactive exhibit as well as a permanent gendarme museum. This is especially important for the sake of historical truth, as the gendarme garrison was an integral part of village life in the early 20th century in Hungary, which is the very theme of ÓNTE Skanzen, Hungary's village-museum. Leaving it out is overt falsification of history. It is shameful that a country would not have a museum where people could learn about a law-enforcement corps that served the nation so effectively for 63 years that other countries came to learn from them.

- To this end, we have created a book for school-age children, which leads the reader through a typical day of a gendarme patrol. All the cases mentioned in the book are based on true stories, most of which were published in the Csendőrségi Lapok. A short summary of the Hungarian Royal Gendarmerie is added to the end of the book with extensive endnotes so parents can answer any questions their children might have. This addendum was necessary, as most parents either lack knowledge about the gendarmerie or have misconceptions about them due to the 75-year-long communist propaganda. The book will be published in early December so it could be purchased before Christmas. As we could not find a publisher (they either said it does not fit their profile or the topic is not timely, or they simply did not respond to our letter), Ookpress (Attila Szathmáry) will print 500 copies, which we will make available via Vatera, Galeria Savaria, etc. When the Ópusztaszer National Heritage Park opens in the spring, the book will also be available in their gift shop.

- To this end people scanned in their books for us, books that could not be found anywhere else. Among these stands out Gábor Orbán, who provided over 30 books for the website!

- To this end, gendarme 1st Lt. György Perjési collected throughout his life every bit of information he could find on any and all gendarmes, organizing the data in nine thick volumes. He trusted this special treasure to me a few years ago, shortly before his death (and now, it has also been added to our website).

- To this end, some people collect gendarmerie-related memorabilia in Hungary, often with much personal sacrifice, like Béla Kürti, whose collection was on exhibit in February in Dévaványa, and again at the ÓNTE in September, or Dr. István Gulyás, Dr. Csaba Lóránd, András Sipos, Benedek Veres, and others. Their collections were shown in several independent exhibits, or they loaned material to other exhibits.

- To this end, the gendarmes have sent their cherished gendarme memorabilia to the MKCsBK Museum until it was turned over to the Hungarian House in Toronto in 1984 (and then transferred to Hungary in 2000, where the collection was broken apart and became the property of the Military Museum in Budapest. Parts of it were on exhibit a couple of times since then).

- To this end, the gendarmes sent their memorabilia to me after the MKCsBK museum closed. They did this in the hope that one day their cherished items will return to their beloved homeland for all people to see, and serve the restoration of their honor and the reputation of their service they carried out according to their motto, "Faithfully, honorably, valiantly, until death."

- To this end, I collected all gendarmerie-related material, books, documents, objects, whatever I could find, and I dedicated our one-room "museum" to the memory of my beloved and greatly respected gendarme father.

- And now, to this end, I part with this cherished collection. God provided the opportunity to return all of it back to the homeland of the Hungarian gendarmes, where it belongs. I hope it will serve the good end the collection intended, and through it the Hungarian people will gain knowledge, and learn to respect the honorable service the gendarmes provided for the good of the people, whom they loved so fervently. The Hungarian Royal Gendarmerie was world-famous for their excellence. It's time the Hungarians get to know them, too.

In October, the Hungarian Embassy in Washington, D.C., picked up my "museum" collection, packed in 68 boxes, and is taking them to Hungary. I express my thanks to them, too, for their kind service. The documents and books, along with the Perjési collection, will become a part of the archives and library of Veritas (Dr. Sándor Szakály, director), and they will guard the memorabilia part of the collection until a permanent home will be found for it, expectadly in the gendarme garrison building that will hopfully be built in the Skanzen of the Ópusztaszer National Heritage Park. The MKCsBK took the first steps toward establishing the building by providing the money needed for the planning and permits, and will also provide the objects necessary for a permanent museum through my collection.

Dr. József Parádi (president of the SZBMRTT) was awarded one of the highest award the Hungarian government can give to an individual for excellent work, on October 22 of this year. This award is not only the acknowledgment of the highest quality of his personal work, but also a sign that the nation is more willing to examine our true history, rather than distort it for political reasons.

On September 10, in Ópusztaszer, a one-day symposium took place titled, "The law is behind you, also keep it before you! - The Hungarian Royal Gendarmerie and its era". The SZBMRTT and the ÓNTE (Péter Kertész, director) organized the event, and most of it can be <u>viewed</u> on the internet. Due to technical difficulties, the discussion of a recent book, *The enemy's children*, by Vilma Alföldi, is not on the video. Her father was a gendarme, and for that reason the communists did not allow her or the other children of gendarmes and other "enemies" of their rule to be educated, even after the death of their fathers, saying that their home environment probably prevented them from becoming faithful supporters of the socialist regime. Her father's biography is on our website, and she has been working on their own website as a forum for these "children of the enemy,"

We thankfully acknowledge the faithful continued support of Emese Maczky Kerkay and Péter Aradi-Beöthy, who is also an active leader of the "Sins of the Communism" organization, which, as we mentioned earlier, exposes the many sins the communists have committed against our nation and her people. (See their website, http://www.kommunizmusbunei.hu/, for more info).

Respectfully,

V. Kriving Setten

Zoltán v Kőrössy MKCsBK central director

