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Dear Friends,

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We live in critical times. The idea of logic is outdated; truth became relative; prejudices rule over and in spite of facts; the historical roots on which our civilization stands are not only rejected but disdained; measuring with two standards is not only common but accepted.

For example: some well-known historians insist that not only the ruling regime and the occupying powers were responsible for the deportation and eventual holocaust of Jews in Hungary, but our whole nation as well, because we allowed it to happen, and so we all should be ashamed for it. At the same time, they do not consider the people of Palestine responsible in any way for the October 7 massacre, even though they overwhelmingly supported the perpetrating Hamas and its goal of total abolition of the Jews. Or, the EU is using monetary extortion to force our nation to deny our (and their!) roots of respect for family and nation, which are crucial for our survival. Or, historians, who single-mindedly blame the whole holocaust on the gendarmerie, are bitterly complaining that too few of them were held accountable for it. They are not willing to accept that the reason may be that not many actually took part in it. And while they loudly – and rightly – cry out against the atrocities committed against the Jews in 1944, they are silent against the atrocities committed



Dr. Sándor Szakály presents the MKCSBK Emlékérem to Attila Szathmáry.

against the Jews today, and approve the atrocities committed against the innocent gendarmes and their families after 1945.

Without the knowledge of the Bible, one would be dismayed seeing these contradictions and trends. But we know that God is also the God of history, and all things will eventually serve His glory: both the eventual victory of the godly good and the eventual punishment of satanic bad. And in the meanwhile, our job is to seek and stand by the truth, wherever that may be found: in history, worldviews, moral standards, scientific discoveries, etc. This is what we serve even through our website of the Hungarian Royal Gendarmerie.

The truth trumps over lies and their power. But it is not enough to seek the truth, we must also make it available to others. This is the main purpose of our website. But more than that, the truth must be proclaimed and spread. That's why we are delighted to see the ever-more numerous exhibits, programs, interviews, scientific conferences, symposiums, videos, books, etc. that deal with the gendarmerie. Let's look closer at these.

God provided for us to spend a couple of weeks in our homeland in last October. The main goal of our short visit was to reorganize the gendarme exhibit in Ópusztaszer, to make it more informative and a better experience for visitors. We successfully accomplished this mission a few days before the winter closing of the Skanzen with the effective, willing, and expert teamwork of Dr. Péter Kertész, director; Dr. Prof. Sándor Szakály; Attila Szathmáry and his wife; and ÓNTE curator Zsuzsanna Miseta. We are deeply thankful for them to bring about this much needed improvement.

Beforehand, pictures and documents placed on the walls were supposed to tell the visitors about the work and life of the gendarmes in the gendarme garrisons. But the necessary cordon prevented the people from getting near enough for closer inspection, so the exhibited material could not provide the intended information.

Now, all the pictures from the walls are in a swinging panel display on a table positioned outside the cordon, so the visitors can look at them closely. In another display case are copies of all the documents that are on the walls (documents, that were also mandatory to display on the walls of every gendarme garrison). We also placed into these display cases descriptions of the contents of each furniture. Every object, form, document reference material, and book was kept in the very same place, in the very same order, in every single garrison of the country, so a gendarme, even on his very first day in a new place, could immediately find everything necessary for his work. For example, the scissors had to be on a nail on the right side of the office desk, with a ruler behind it. There will also be a stack of flyers on the table – and one of them in the display case – giving a brief history of the gendarmerie.

By the spring opening of the Skanzen, a number of books will also find their places on this table to provide a deeper understanding of the gendarmes' life and work. The most important of these books is the *Organisational and Operational Regulations*, which strictly controlled all details of the life and work of the gendarmes. There will also be a gendarme workbook, illustrating the kind of continuing professional training in which they mandatorily participated every morning, unless they were away on patrol. Furthermore, a collection of actual investigations will be on exhibit, along with a booklet detailing the everyday life in the garrison, e.g. how often and how they had to fill their mattresses with straw. This was put together from my correspondence with garrison commander Sargent Major Pál Jegenyés, the founder of MKCsBK. Finally, a copy of a *Work Diary* will also be available for the visitors. Every gendarme continuously entered all his activities into such a diary, from his first day until

he retired or left the gendarmerie, carrying it from station to station. This will allow a deeper insight into their work.

We also made some minor changes in the arrangement of the exhibit's furniture to make it more authentic, and we placed two large wallpaper images on the walls to improve the visitors' experience. Above the aforementioned table outside the cordon is a wall picture of two gendarmes on horses, about to start their patrol. On the opposite wall is a picture of two gendarmes resting on their bedside chairs, which was the only private place they had. They



A portion of the ÓNTE gendarme exhibit's office side with the swinging panel displays. This table will also house the books the visitors may browse on site.

could only sit there to rest or read a letter, as they were not allowed to sit or lay down on their beds during the day, unless they'd just returned from an overnight patrol.

Attila Szathmáry ([lookpress nyomda](#)) prepared these wall pictures, as well as the copies of all the documents for the swinging panel displays. By spring, he also will make an administrative map of Hungary that was mandatorily posted in all gendarme garrisons, on canvas, supported with a wooden border on the top and bottom. (He also printed our book, *Csendőr szívvel, kakastollal, járőrben*). He received the MKCsBK Emlékérem for his efforts on our behalf.

Local groups also organize more and more exhibits and commemorations nationwide, including in Transylvania, to honor the memory of the gendarmes, whose excellent world-famous order-keeping work greatly contributed to Hungary's economic recovery after, and even in spite of, Trianon. The presence of gendarme tradition-keepers often makes these events

more solemn. Two of these groups are especially noted. Pál Ságvári established the Magyar Csendőr Bajtársi Egyesület (MCSBE) in 2003 (current director: Csaba Tóth, since 2020), and István Préda established the Magyar Csendőr Hagyományörző Egyesület in 2015. He also organized our first meeting with the ÓNTE leadership, which led to the creation of the current exhibit there in 2016. Recently, his members also provide the “gendarme presence” at the exhibit, making it more memorable for visitors and more informative as well, as they can answer the visitors’ questions. (They provide their own uniforms for this service).

The prestigious SZBMRTT (Dr. József Parádi, director) represents those historians who research the law-enforcement corps throughout Hungarian history, which of course includes the Hungarian Royal Gendarmerie as well. They present their work at conferences, symposiums, various meetings and lectures, TV reports and interviews, as well as in their [publications](#). Thus, the many false preconceptions and overt lies about the gendarmerie gradually weaken and diminish.

A few of these lectures and interviews are available on the internet, along with quite a few other gendarmerie-related videos. Some of them still try to promote the communist hatred of the gendarmerie, while others are well-intended amateur productions. One of my favorite is a video showing a series of original gendarme [photographs](#) (all from our website) with my gendarme officer father’s Gendarme Day speech from 1956 in the background (also from our website).

I especially recommend to our friends two high-quality historical summaries of the gendarmerie. One is Dr. József Parádi’s lecture at [Dévaványa](#) (Transylvania); the other one is Dr. Sándor Szakály’s [lecture](#) at the Hungarians’ National Convention. One may also watch the opening of the [gendarme exhibit](#) prepared by the [Veritas History-Research and Archives](#) (director Dr. Sándor Szakály), as a part of a nationwide event, the so-called *Night of the Researchers*. In it, they also discuss how my lifelong collection of gendarme documents and artifacts was transferred to their care in 2020. The details of the planned gendarme garrison building can also be found as one of the lectures given at the symposium held at ÓNTE, which was organized in collaboration with the SZBMRTT, titled, ["Mögötted a törvény, előtted is az legyen!" - A Magyar Királyi Csendőrség és kora](#) (“The law is behind you, so also keep it before you!” – *The Hungarian Royal Gendarmerie and its Era*). The *M5 História* TV program in December also has put forth a series of interviews with well-known historians, discussing the work and fate of the gendarmerie, titled, [“Stigmatized people, ruined lives – the history of the gendarmerie.”](#)

Several books published in recent years need special mention. Vilma Alföldi’s book, *The Children of the Enemy* (*Az ellenség gyermekei*), and Gábor Vincze’s volume about the destiny of the gendarmes after 1945 (*Csendőrsorsok 1945 után az állambiztonsági és népbírószági iratok tükrében*) deal with the unjust and brutal treatment of the gendarmes and their families during the communist rule after WWII. Four authors (József Parádi, Sándor Szakály, Oszkár Szigetvári and Zsolt Zétényi) prepared a very important volume about the investigational technics and regulations of the gendarmerie. The book includes the Hungarian Royal Gendarmerie’s original publication on the topic from 1903, so the readers may study the original text along with modern day interpretations and comments. Our book published with the youth in mind, *On Patrol with Gendarme Heart and Rooster Feather* (*Csendőrszívvel, kakastollal, járőrben*) has a special significance in the education of a new generation, who is grossly unfamiliar with this part of our history, or has already been infected with the lies the communists have put forth very effectively to this day. This is the one and only book on the Hungarian gendarmerie directed toward youth, as such a book was not necessary during the

existence of the gendarmerie, because people were quite familiar with their work first-hand, and to become a gendarme was a highly honored and desired calling among the youth of that era. Only communist propaganda and persecution distorted public opinion of the gendarmes and destroyed their honor, so our book desires to remedy this situation. It narrates one typical day of a gendarme patrol through the eyes of a young gendarme on the very first patrol of his life. We recommend the book to all young people (and to their parents). Please, let others know about it as well. It is available through the [Magyar Menedék Könyvesház](#) and the [Trianon Múzeum](#), both in their bookstores and web-stores, or directly from our faithful co-worker, Péter Laborc (laborcpete@gmail.com).

One of the most important publications of the Hungarian Royal Gendarmerie, the [Csendőrségi Lapok](#), has been available in its entirety through our website for some years now, with the exception of ten pages from the 1937, Feb 24 issue. At last, these missing pages have been found and added, thanks to Gábor Orbán, who also has copied for our website over 30 gendarme books in the past years, several of which we did not even know existed. We thank him for his selfless and consistent support of our mutual goal, the restoration of the due respect for the gendarmerie.

While the Covid pandemic, the Ukrainian war, and the EU's extortion of Hungary delayed the building of the gendarme garrison in Ópusztaszer, its expected cost rose from the 73 million Forints projected 5 years ago to the currently projected 240 million.

We are hoping very much that the EU will loosen its financial grip on us, and our nation finally will be able to realize the long-overdue plan of building a permanent museum for the Hungarian Gendarmerie. Nevertheless, the financial help of our friends are still much needed and appreciated, as this fund supports the current exhibit as well as the future setup of the permanent museum. The material for the museum is already secured through my collection, which, in the meanwhile, is under the care of Veritas (Dr. Szakály Sándor, CEO). Pieces from the previous MKCsBK museum that was transferred to the Hungarian Military History Museum from Canada in 2000 will also hopefully be added.



A section of the bedroom side of the gendarme garrison exhibit.

We thankfully acknowledge Péter Aradi-Beöthy and his dear wife's further significant contribution to this ÓNTE fund.

New laws required ÓNTE to change banks, so now it has a bank account at the Hungarian National Treasury (Magyar Állami Kincstár). The new account and bank identification numbers necessary for money transfer are the following:

Account number: 10028007-00318864-00000024

IBAN number: HU27 1002 8007 0031 8864 0000 0024

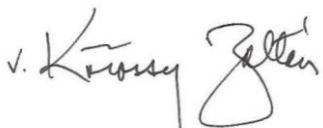
SWIFT (BIC) code: MANEHUHB

Due to the long hiatus since our last *Newsletter*, we are only now reporting a significant news from 2022. The ÓNTE's *Szer üzenete* award went to Dr. Prof. [Sándor Szakály](#). He also recently received the [Pro Comitatu Somogy](#) award, the highest given by his county, where he was born and grew up and has remained active ever since. Just this month he also received the [Wass Albert award](#), given nationwide to only one recipient a year. We wholeheartedly congratulate him, and wish God's richest blessing on his life and work for the benefit of our beloved nation.

We again commend to your attention the work of our dear friend, Dr. Gergely Tóth (who will also be the next MKCsBK central director). His heritage-saving work is now posted on his website, magyarnegyed.com, where galleries of pictures he collected worldwide show the footprints of the Hungarian diaspora: their churches, clubs, societies, associations, memorials, monuments, building and street signs, cemeteries, etc., many of which would be lost to the future without this extensive work of preservation.

More than a year went by since our last *Newsletter*, so the list of those who returned to their Maker is sadly long. With our deep sympathy to the bereaved families and friends, I report the passing of Pál Cseresnyés, Hungary; Gyula Ferenc, Switzerland; György Goór, Australia; Dr. István Gulyás, Magyarország; Ilona Kostka, Winneconne, Canada (her father was a gendarme, and her father-in-law a gendarme officer); Csaba Lóránt, Hungary; Stephen Lőrincz, Florida, USA; I. Markosi, Colorado, USA; G. Orczy, South-Africa; Györgyné Perjési, Hungary; József v. Tassányi, Australia.

Wishing all of you a blessed New Year, with best regards,



v. Zoltán Körössy
MKCsBK Central Director

*Note: in the digital version of the *Newsletter*, clicking on the blue, underlined words takes the reader to the relevant website

Híven, becsülettel, vitézül