RESUMÉE

0466 József ESTÓK
The Uniforms and Ranks of the Criminal Justice System in Bourgeois Hungary 1867-1945
Following the Austro-Hungarian Compromise of 1867, as part of the evolving law enforcement model of the bourgeois Hungarian state, the Hungarian prison system was put under the oversight of the Royal Hungarian Ministry of Justice. The Hungarian prison system underwent a revival during the Era of the Dual Monarchy, when the Kingdom of Hungary implemented the most modern prison system regulations on continental Europe and began to actualize a penitentiary architecture system that conformed to the most progressive principles of the era. Although progress dramatically slowed in the wake of the Treaty of Trianon, it did not come to a full halt. The creation of a system that treated state workers uniformly formed a part of the innovation process of the bourgeois Hungarian state; this included uniforms and a ranking system for guards at the organizational level. The objective of the system was to treat equally individuals who were equally qualified for positions. The prowess (specialty) of a unit was displayed via the uniform. The state awarded bonuses for duty difficulties that differed among units. Thus, individuals working in the prison system essentially received the same compensation as those who worked in other public sector areas, even if their uniforms and ranking system differed from other law enforcement agencies.

0467 József PARÁDI
Hungarian Law Enforcement 1867-1918
The history of the progress of the bourgeois Hungarian state can be split into two periods: the Era of the Dual Monarchy and the Interwar Era. The two periods were separated by 133 days, the brief time the Hungarian Republic of Councils was in power; moreover, both eras ended in wartime. During both periods, essentially the same law enforcement model kept order in Hungary, although the Treaty of Trianon and some other factors caused inconsequential differences. This work examines the circumstances surrounding the development of the law enforcement model of the bourgeois Hungarian state. It also determines the place of law enforcement within the structure of the Austro-Hungarian Empire. The author shares some important data and describes processes in order to underscore the objective of Hungarian law enforcement of that period. Familiarizing the reader with the workings of this important part of the Hungarian state helps him better understand the characteristics of Hungarian development in the Era of the Dual Monarchy.

0468 József PARÁDI
Intelligence and Border Security in the Kingdom of Hungary in the Era of the Dual Monarchy
Throughout Europe – including the Kingdom of Hungary – the responsibilities of gathering intelligence and protecting the border traditionally belonged to the sovereign. In the wake of the Industrial Revolution, however, advances in military technology and enhanced wartime tactics overrode this tradition. To achieve victory, the concentrated use of well-equipped units became indispensable. To counter threats, the soldiers on the frontier – in the interests of executing their responsibilities of protecting the border – were stripped of heavy weaponry, broken up into smaller organizational units and placed along the length of the frontier in relatively narrow stretches. As a result, the units guarding the border lost their capacity to wage war. Thus the armed forces handed over the responsibility of patrolling the border to law enforcement agencies, first in the western half of Europe, then gradually through the midsection of the continent. This process reached the Austro-Hungarian Empire in the middle of the 19th century. By the time of the Era of the Dual Monarchy, law enforcement organizations patrolled the state boundaries instead of the armed forces. Reconnaissance – since it was a responsibility of the chief of staff of the armed forces – was thus considered a common affair (of the Monarchy), while border patrol belonged to the individual states. Concerning intelligence, however, cooperation between the Evidenzbureau, the organization tasked with gathering intelligence, and the border patrol units was indispensable, especially regarding the border area. In the border areas in the jurisdiction of the Kingdom of Hungary, this cooperation was excellent with respect to gendarmerie on the frontier,
the Royal Hungarian Border Police and the reconnaissance stations (operating under the chief of staff) of the k.u.k. as well as with the organizations responsible for determining military operations in a given sector.

0469

Oszkár Szigetvári

The Detective Branch of the Budapest Police Department

Detectives were the investigators of the law enforcement agencies of the bourgeois Hungarian state. Within the agencies, detectives constituted an independent category; their supervisor was the chief investigator, who enjoyed the authority of a second-in-command. The first detective group was formed as part of the Budapest Police Department in 1885. Detectives – compared to the average educational attainment of the time – were extremely well educated and the remuneration they enjoyed as part of the public sector provided a comfortable living for them. Additionally they were led by individuals with outstanding leadership skills. In short time, Hungarian detectives were considered on par with their Western European counterparts, who enjoyed a much longer and more prestigious past as detectives. The best detectives worked for the Budapest Police Department, which was the center of a system that included the larger cities of the countryside. Later other law enforcement agencies created organizations similar to the detective groups of the police. The exception was the Royal Hungarian Gendarmerie, which never established a detective group during its existence.

0470

Sándor Verbovszki

Criminal proceedings have ended without conviction.

The Legal and Forensic Anomalies in the Case of Dr. László Lajos Csatáry, in Light of the Documents

What is truth? Is it simply what the great mass of people thinks about individuals and events or is it the objective truth itself? Is there even a possibility of knowing the objective truth? Can we trust the fact-finding activities of the organs of justice, or that the courts will rule impartially? This work – although the author has not explicitly asked these questions – provides these answers for one specific individual in one specific case. The writer trusts the reader to provide the answers for himself. Everyone must decide for himself whether the Euro-Atlantic legal system is capable of handling politically motivated cases in an impartial manner, whether or not it can provide enough safeguards to defend the innocent. The study is thought-provoking, while simultaneously (referencing this one specific case) providing interesting historical information to the reader. The study may also be considered as an admonition that it is unworthy of the spirituality of the onetime persecuted, of the moral authority of their tribulations and not being capable of recreating cases without access to the explicit truth. By examining one explicit case the author places his faith in the necessity of the precision of history, on the propriety of history with objectivity as its foundation.

0471

Nikolett Volcsányi

Royal Hungarian Gendarmerie Rules and Regulations Pertaining to Personnel that seem Unusual from a 21st Century Perspective

Today the Royal Hungarian Gendarmerie – despite being disbanded on the basis of political preconceptions – is a source of much lore, both good and bad. The study – free of political overtones and the changing perceptions that have accompanied the gendarmerie over the decades – takes a look at some rules that may seem strange or usual from the perspective of the 21st century. On their own, these regulations may seem overly strict in the current moral and legal environment; however, the study endeavors to provide the reader with the reasoning behind them. Accordingly the objective of the rules which we looked at was to maintain operating effectiveness, national security and high moral standards. These regulations arguably played a role in the organization’s efficiency, which is very popular with the public today. However, theoretically speaking, if the people of today had to live by these regulations as members of the gendarmerie instead of enjoying the benefits that efficient law enforcement provided, then it is unlikely that they would chose to spend a considerable time in the organization. In other words the people of today must take into consideration what it was like to live under the challenging regulations that made the Royal Hungarian Gendarmerie so successful.
Royal Hungarian Gendarmerie Rules Pertaining to Use of Firearms
in Comparison to the Current Rules of the Hungarian Police

Putting this subject under examination is an interesting undertaking from the consideration of whether it is possible to compare an organization that was disbanded three-fourths of a century ago with one operating today. The author has used a brilliant method to accomplish the task. In essence the author has proven that similar pivotal objectives require similar rules. Strictly speaking, the rules governing firearm use in the Hungarian Police Department of the 21st century can be considered as a derivative provision of the firearm regulation of the Royal Hungarian Gendarmerie. Of course the author acknowledges that differences exist between the two; he nonetheless comes to the conclusion that similarities outnumber differences and that the rules of either organization were built on a similar foundation. With this exploratory work of objective history, the author destroys the misconception surrounding the use of firearms as a means of repression by the Royal Hungarian Gendarmerie. Narratives motivated by differing world views do not bump up against each other in the study. Instead the author has laid out the facts in such a manner as to allow the reader to draw his own conclusions.