

Refugees To Have Difficult Time Making New Life, Russell Jones Declares

Editor's note: Russell Jones of the United Press, who covered the Hungarian revolt until he was expelled, is back in the United States. This is his first dispatch since his return.

By RUSSELL JONES—United Press Correspondent
I flew back to the United States last Friday. My wife and I were on a plane with 50 refugees from Hungary.

One of them was a 9-year-old boy named George Meszaro. He is a lad with a grin, big ears, tousled hair, eyelashes long enough for a girl. But he is like no nine year old I ever met.

George just can't stop talking about the things he saw in a revolution that took place right under his living room window. He was pulled out of his bedroom by freedom fighters who set up a machine gun there.

He saw men killed yards away. He saw bodies lying in the streets. He rode out of Budapest in a truck with a corpse alongside him. He has come here with his father, his mother, his grandmother and his aunt.

People have asked me all sorts of questions since I got here. I'll tell you what some of my answers were. First I'd like to answer one which applies very definitely to Georgia Meszaro.

Q. Won't many of the Hungarian refugees have a most difficult time making a new life in the United States?

A. Very definitely. The worst thing we could do would be to let these people get lost here and want to go home again. It is one thing to feed them, to give them clothing and fly them to America. It is another thing to see that they overcome the tremendous barrier of not speaking English, to see that the man of the family gets a decent job.

Q. What can Americans do?

A. I have heard that in some places each church is making itself responsible for one refugee family. It will stick with them, for a year or more if necessary, to see that they really fit in. That's one of the best bits of news I've heard.

Q. Did the Communists plant agents among the refugees to slip into this country?

A. I doubt it very much. The situation was so chaotic that they didn't have a system for that. We may have got some bad apples, but certainly no great number.

Q. What about deportation of Hungarians to Russia?

A. As nearly as I could tell there was one train, maybe two or three, carrying 1,500 people to Uzhgorod across the border in Russia. They were held for some time but I believe that virtually all were returned. It appears the Russians started a master plan of deportation and called it off because of the great public outcry.

Q. Did the Russians and Communist Hungarians really try to halt the flow of refugees to the West?

A. Perhaps not at first. Then they began to feel the world effect of these people going out and telling their stories. That's when they clamped down, even began laying mines.

Q. What about reports of Russians sending in Mongolian troops?

A. Very much exaggerated. Perhaps there were 10 per cent Mongolians, something like the proportion of Negroes in our army. I occasionally saw one or two in a squad car.

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People in East Berlin Apparently Don't Care About Looks; Christmas Spirit Said Wanting

Editor's Note: The following dispatch was written by Jessica Gaver, an American free-lance writer for magazines who has been visiting various cities and U. S. bases in Germany.

By JESSICA RUSSELL GAVER
Written for United Press

Berlin — (UPI) — Americans trying to live in Germany would have an unhappy time, even on an American salary, unless they could reconcile themselves to doing without many of the things they take for granted at home but which are luxuries here—if obtainable at all. This is particularly true of that section of Berlin under Russian control.

Accompanied by Joseph B. Fleming, head of the United Press bureau in Berlin, I left my camera at the hotel and tried to photograph facts, scenes and people in my mind.

It wasn't so bad in Allied-controlled West Berlin where more buildings have gone on to replace the rubble in the past year than in all the other years since World War II. Although there was an occasional bombed ruin not yet repaired or replaced, the neon lights, the Christmas sings, the general festive preparations for Christmas put Western Germany in tune with the holiday spirit elsewhere in the free world.

But in East Berlin, from the moment you see a sign reading, "The Beginning of the Democratic Sector," a sense of despair engulfs you. Except for the Stalinalle, where Russian-styled apartment houses loom impressively, there are numerous large bombed-out areas that have been cleaned up but obviously have never been used for anything since.

Except for two occasions, we never saw a smile on anyone's face in the eastern sector.

Merchandise Expensive
In the HO (Handels Organization), meaning trade organizations) department store we entered there was not the happy crowding and shoving I found in a department store in Augsburg, a few days earlier. There, everyone was having fun pushing by to look at the Christmas gift ideas.

Here, you would not have known Christmas was in the air except for a pathetic imita-

tion of a carnival a few streets away. Again, laughter was missing.

One reason it would be difficult for an American to be happy under the German economy is that, except for restaurant meals and German food staples, all merchandise is expensive. A German westmark is four to the U. S. dollar, true; but usually the price is four times what you would expect to pay.

In the eastern sector, where eastmarks are five for one West German mark, you still don't get a break unless you have an eastern identity card. Without it, you must pay the eastern mark price in the same number of western marks.

An American dealing with the eastern sector's black market would receive five times as many marks as in the western sector, but he would be paying such an inflated price for what

he bought that it would cost him too much anyway.

Clothing Difference
The difference in the economies of the western and eastern sectors is made apparent readily by the difference in the clothing. In West Berlin women wear stockings, either cotton or wool or perhaps nylon's sister, perlon. You see occasional high-heeled or dressy shoes. They use lipstick, wear more hats and you can see smart coiffures in the better restaurants. The men look as you would expect white-collar-and-tie men to look.

In the Russian sector, the men follow the Soviet policy of going tieless, apparently to affirm their status as "workers."

The women wear heavy wool or cotton knee socks, either one color or loud Argyle types. They use no lipstick and their hair appears never to receive any care. They either wear babushkas on their heads or no covering at all. Heavy high shoes or ankle-high oxfords or flats with

heavy rubber soles and heels are worn.

The only colors aside from brown or black in footwear are red or purple; yes, purple. Most dresses and suits, including suits for men, are custom made, or material is sold for people to home-make them.

Women's perlon stockings were the equivalent of three American dollars per pair and not very nice looking. Cotton ones were \$2. Although bearing German manufacturer's name, stockings we looked at had American sizes on them—quite unusual. The knee-length socks were about 75 cents a pair. A sign said hosiery repairs could be made in 24 hours, and we saw many a darn decorating women's legs.

The general impression you got was that the people in East Berlin just didn't care how they looked; that they had been trained to feel that looks and outer appearance don't mean a thing.

Two Obstacles Seen In Milk Price Boost

Portland—(UPI) — Directors of Oregon Milk Producers meeting here this week said two factors were the major obstacles to a milk price raise in the local market.

One obstacle was called a milk price war in Vancouver, Wash., and the other was failure of dairymen in this area to support their state wide organization.

Some 18 directors from northwest Oregon and southwest Washington met here to discuss a request for action on an immediate price increase. Some 80 dairymen met here last week and asked for the price hike.

The directors named a committee to strengthen the Portland area membership of Oregon Milk Producers.

Richard Westerberg of Ashland, OMP president, said dairymen could be assured the organization was continuing negotiations with Portland distributors for a price increase.

Portland—(UPI)—James Wheelock Marsh, 94, accountant and one-time publisher of a Forest Grove newspaper, died here Monday.

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