The Origins of Totalitarianism – Hannah Arendt (1906-1975)

Part Three – Totalitarianism

Main book – 1951; Epilogue – 1958 and contains the Hungarian Revolution details

RED & **BOLD RED** – pertinent to the totalitarian events commencing March 2020; {my comments}

303 “Normal men do not know that everything is possible.” David Rousset (survivor – concentration camps)

305 “… the startling swiftness with which they are forgotten and the startling ease with which they can be replaced.” Totalitarianism/Its leaders (incl. Hitler after establishing a hypnotic fascination)

306 Must keep things in motion; **must have** the allegiance of the masses – internet communications/media critical now

307 Adherents: “… will not be shaken in his conviction by crimes against people who do not belong to the movement, or are even hostile to it… neither is he likely to waver when the monster begins to **devour its own children**…”

308 Don’t work in countries with small populations – {global agenda now perfect set-up}

“After the first World War… wave of… Totalitarian movements swept Europe.”

It seems obvious that Totalitarian & Fascist regimes, rampant in the early 20th century were opportunistic (Malignant Messianic Narcissism) – situations that preyed upon (possibly) a war-torn populous mentality

310 Smaller European countries – non-totalitarian dictatorships were preceded by totalitarian regimes – once power was taken the size of the country forced dictatorship – even Germany was too small – totalitarianism would’ve only worked there if Germany won the war.

311 China/India works for totalitarian rule – inexhaustible supply of people.

312 Totalitarian movement pointed out 2 illusions of democracy –

1) The politically neutral & indifferent masses could easily be the masses (majority), therefore the democracy functions according to the rules which are actively recognized by only a minority, and

2) The democratic government had rested as much on the silent approbation and tolerance of the indifferent and inarticulate sections of people as the “others”.

{- contrast this with Hawkins – Democracy has a life span of 2-300 years}

“… totalitarian movements use and abuse democratic freedoms in order to abolish them.”

313 “… totalitarian leaders do not differ much in psychology and mentality from the earlier mob leaders…”

“ … totalitarian movements… [do not tolerate]… any other kind of individualism…”

314 Totalitarianism unique – “… complete loss of individual claims and ambition… extinguishing individual identity permanently…”

322 Dictatorial terror differs from totalitarian terror – threatens only authentic opponents, not harmless citizens without political opinions.

“The consequences of the artificial famine in 1933 were felt for years throughout the country.” (Russia)

Equality of condition among subjects – not adequate for totalitarianism (it leaves communal bonds in place) – {another downfall of the totalitarian regime}

Primary condition of totalitarianism – absolutely atomized elements in a mass society with completely heterogenous uniformity.

323 “Totalitarian movements are mass organizations of atomized, isolated individuals.” “… demand for total, unrestricted, unconditional and unalterable loyalty of the individual member.”

**325** “Totalitarianism is never content to rule by external means… [it] has discovered a means of dominating and terrorizing human beings from within.”

“In this sense it eliminates the distance between the rulers and the ruled and achieves a condition in which power and the will to power, as we understand them, play no role, or at best, a secondary role.”

**333** “… the terrible, demoralizing fascination in the possibility that gigantic lies and monstrous falsehoods can eventually be established as unquestioned facts… and that the difference between truth and falsehood may cease to be objective and become a mere matter of power & cleverness, of pressure and **infinite repetition**. Not Stalin’s nor Hitler’s skill in the art of lying, but the fact that they were able to organize the masses into a collective unit to back up their lies with impressive magnificence, exerted the fascination…”

338 “Nothing proved easier to destroy than the privacy and private morality of people…” (Germany)

339 The Nazis: “The only person who is still a private individual in Germany is somebody who is still asleep (literally, I assume).”

Totalitarianism in power invariably replaces all first-rate talents, regardless of their sympathies, with those crackpots and fools whose lack of intelligence and creativity is still the best guarantee of their loyalty.

341 “Only the mob and the elite can be attracted by the momentum of totalitarianism itself, the masses have to be won by propaganda.” (lies!)

“… of appearing plausible to a public which is not yet rigorously isolated from all other sources of information.” {internet, etc. makes this totalitarian agenda possible}

“Wherever totalitarianism possesses absolute control, it replaces propaganda with indoctrination and uses violence and not so much to frighten people (done only in initial stages when political opposition still exists) as to realize constantly its ideological doctrines and it’s practical lies.”

“… Stalin decided to rewrite the history of the Russian revolution… consisted in destroying, together with the older books and documents, their authors and readers.”

345 “The strong emphasis of totalitarian propaganda on the ‘scientific’ nature of its assertions…”

“The obsession of totalitarian movements with “scientific” proofs ceases once they are in power.” (Both Nazis & Bolsheviks discarded scientists at a point.)

**346** “… a more general sign of that obsession with science which has characterized the Western world since the rise of mathematics and physics in the 16th century, thus totalitarianism appears only to be the last stage in a process during which “science” has become an idol that will magically cure the evils of existence…”

347 ““Scientism” in politics still presupposes that human welfare is its object, a concept which is utterly alien to totalitarianism.”

349 Mass leaders – one concern over others – to make their predictions come true.

351 “What convinces masses are not facts, and not even invented facts, but only the consistency of the system of which they are presumably part.”

**352** “The chief disability of totalitarian propaganda is that it cannot fulfill this longing of the masses for a completely consistent, comprehensible and predictable world without seriously conflicting with common sense.”

“Totalitarian propaganda can outrageously insult common sense only where common sense has lost its validity.”

**353** “Before they seize power and establish a world according to their doctrines, totalitarian movements conjure up a lying world of consistency which is more adequate to the needs of the human mind than reality itself…”

357 (footnote) “The mass-meeting is the strongest form of propaganda… [because] each individual feels more self-confident and more powerful in the unity of a mass.”

360 Erase the word “nation” – the SS

361 “… the two totalitarian movements of our time…” (Nazis/Bolsheviks)

362 “… totalitarian propaganda establishes a world fit to compete with the real one, whose main handicap is that it is not logical, consistent & organized.”

“The consistency of the fiction and strictness of the organization make it possible for the generalization eventually to survive the explosion of more specific lies.”

363 The toppling of totalitarianism – “It is in the moment of defeat that the inherent weakness of totalitarian propaganda becomes visible.”

364 “… whose members act & react according to the rules of a fictitious world.”

Terror is not a part of the totalitarian agenda as with other fascist or socialist regimes. {exception p. 422 & 453 & 464 – this may be considered that “terror is not part of the totalitarian agenda, *up front*” – see p. 465 quote}

377 Secret societies – “Whosoever is not expressly included is excluded.”

380 “Totalitarian regimes… eventually concentrate all power in the hands of the police.”

**382** “The chief value, however of the secret or conspiracy societies’ organizational structure and moral standards for purposes of mass organization… [is] in their unsurpassed capacity to establish and safe guard the fictitious world through consistent lying.”

Party members – “… expected to react to the changing lying statements of the leaders and the central unchanging ideological fiction of the movement.”

“Mass propaganda discovered that its audience was ready at all times to believe the worst…”

“A mixture of gullibility and cynicism is prevalent in all ranks of totalitarian movements, and the higher the rank the more cynicism weighs down gullibility.”

383 “The machine that generates, organizes and spreads the monstrous falsehoods of totalitarian movements depends again upon the position of the leader.” {This is a possible departure of ‘then’ to ‘now’}

384 Chief handicap of ‘outside world’ – “… it ignored the [totalitarian system]…” and trusted that the lies would be the undoing

In contrast to the movements’ tactical lies, which change literally from day to day, these ideological lies are supposed to be believed like sacred untouchable truths. They are surrounded by a carefully elaborated system of ‘scientific’ ‘proofs…”

385 “… its members’ whole education is aimed at abolishing their capacity for distinguishing between truth and falsehood, between reality and fiction.”

“The outstanding negative quality of the totalitarian elite is that it never stops to think about the world as it really is and never compares the lies with reality. Its most cherished virtue,… is loyalty to the leader, who, like a talisman, assures the ultimate victory of lie & fiction over truth & reality.”

“The topmost layer in the organization of totalitarian movements is the intimate circle around the leader, which can be a formal institution, like the Bolshevik Politburo…” [Now the Bilderberg group, etc.]

**387** “It is not the truthfulness of the leaders’ words but the infallibility of his actions which is the basis for the structure. Without it and in the heat of a discussion which presumes fallibility, the whole fictitious world of totalitarianism goes to pieces, overwhelmed at once by the factuality of the real world…”

“… they fail to understand that their own conspiracy may eventually provoke the whole world into uniting against them.”

**391-2** “Its disregard for facts, its strict allegiance to the rules of a fictitious world, becomes steadily more difficult to maintain, yet remains as essential as it was before. Power means a direct confrontation with reality, and totalitarianism in power, is constantly concerned with overcoming this challenge.”

392 “Even a single individual can be absolutely and reliably dominated only under global totalitarian conditions.”

“… it establishes the secret police… in constantly transforming reality into fiction, and it finally erects concentration camps as special laboratories to carry through its experiment in total domination.”

“Experience & common sense were perfectly justified in expecting that totalitarianism in power would gradually lose its revolutionary momentum and utopian character… and gradually destroy the fictitious world of their organization.”

403 “The only rule of which everybody in a totalitarian state may be sure is that the more visible government agencies are, the less power they carry, and the less is known of the existence of an institution, the more powerful it will turn out to be.”

“Real power begins where secrecy begins.”

405 “… even at eliminating human spontaneity…”

411 “Neither military, nor economic, nor political considerations were allowed to interfere with the costly and troublesome program of mass exterminations and deportations.”

“… a piece of prodigious insanity, in which all rules of logic and principles of economics were turned upside down.”

419 “Up to now we know only two authentic forms of totalitarian domination: The dictatorship of National Socialism after 1938, and the dictatorship of Bolshevism since 1930.” (prior to 1958)

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{Re: The 2 totalitarian regimes above vs. today’s ridiculousness – differences –

1. Before – All attention on the “will of the leader”

Now – Who’s the leader? (There may be one, but probably a consortium)

1. Before – Country bent on world domination

Now – Framework of world domination (WHO, UN, Gates foundation, decades old pharma, etc.) well in place (via financial & other manipulation/propaganda) because it ‘began’ as a world event

1. Before – Extermination of isolated groups within the general population

Now – Attempted, semi-randomized exterminations of the general global population

1. Before – Had to hide the elements of totalitarian agenda from the rest of the world

Now – It’s all out in the open (with a healthy assistance from propaganda (falsehood))

Conclusion: Today’s totalitarian movement = a massive roll of the dice!}

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422 “Only after the extermination of real enemies has been completed and the hunt for “objective enemies” begun does terror become the actual content of totalitarian regimes.”

424 “… the totalitarian ruler proceeds like a man who persistently insults another man until everybody knows that the latter is his enemy, so that he can, with some plausibility, go and kill him in self-defense. This certainly is a little crude, but it works…”

426 “The task of the totalitarian police is not to discover crimes, but to be on hand when the government decides to arrest a certain category of the population.

{Important here: forcing unvaxed to quarantine camps.}

“… in terms of power, they have sunk to the level of executioner.” Secret police

430 “Simply because of their capacity to think, human beings are suspects by definition, and this suspicion cannot be diverted by exemplary behaviour…”

“Everyone in a way, is the agent provocateur of everyone else; for obviously everybody will call himself an agent provocateur if ever an ordinary friendly exchange of “dangerous thoughts”…”

**432** “… it makes every jobholder a conscious accomplice in the crimes of the government.” (reference to the every 10 years purge which removes those in positions above) – {re: doctors, etc. are now accomplices of the globalists.}

**433** “This consistent arbitrariness negates human freedom more efficiently than any tyranny ever could.” Eliminating random segments of population by way of propaganda campaigns. Further, “One had at least to be an enemy of tyranny in order to be punished by it.” (fascism/socialism)

“Freedom of opinion was not abolished for those who were brave enough to risk their necks.” “Theoretically, the choice of opposition remains in totalitarian regimes too…”

“… the innocent and the guilty are equally undesirable.”

434 Secret/totalitarian police – leaves no trace of victims (right down to the victims families)

437 “… we know even less how many of the normal people around us would be willing to accept the totalitarian way of life – that is to pay the price of a considerably shorter life for the assured fulfillment of all their career dreams.” {before}

{(now) AI; technology (in general); grand desires of enhanced physiology; escape to virtual reality, etc. etc.}

“The concentration & extermination camps of totalitarian regimes serve as the laboratories in which the fundamental belief of totalitarianism that everything is possible is being verified [at the expense of the populace!]. Compared with this, all other experiments are secondary in importance…”

438 “The stability of the totalitarian regime depends upon the isolation of the fictitious world from the outside world… and constitute one of the main difficulties for the true understanding of totalitarian domination, which stands or falls with the existence of these concentration & extermination camps; for, unlikely as it may sound, these camps are the true central institution of totalitarian organizational power [force].” {This is the main reason why totalitarianism will self-destruct – concentration camps will never fly on a global basis in the 21st century.}

443 “The real horror of the concentration & extermination camps lies…”

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Stalin, Joseph 18 Dec. 1878 – 5 Mar. 1953 (75 yrs.)

Hitler, Adolf 20 Apr. 1889 – 30 Apr. 1945 (56 yrs.)

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**447** paragraph 2 – The punishment of the innocent – the concept of this in the mass psyche.

“The insane mass manufacture of corpses is preceded by the historically and politically intelligible preparation of living corpses.” {That was then, this is **now**. i.e. the time it took to engineer the working mechanisms to fully employ totalitarianism, in modern times, on a global scale, is in itself self-defeating by the very nature of conscious evolution.}

“The impetus and what is more important, the silent consent to such unprecedented conditions are the products of those events which in a period of political disintegration suddenly and unexpectedly made 100,000’s of human beings homeless, stateless, outlawed and unwanted…” also, “millions rendered ‘economically superfluous and socially burdensome’ by unemployment.

“Could only happen because the “Rights of Man” (i.e. the constitution)… lost all validity.”

“The first essential step on the road to total domination is to kill the juridical person in man.”

448 Criminals included in camps for plausibility, but…

“Criminals do not properly belong in concentration camps, but only because it is harder to kill the juridical person in a man who is guilty of some crime than in a totally innocent person.” [Counter-force]

Camps – not for the punishment of offences

**449** Most essential population in the camps – the totally innocent. “… absolutely necessary…”

451 “The aim of an arbitrary system is to destroy the civil rights of the whole population…”

“The destruction of a man’s rights, the killing of the juridical person in him is a prerequisite for dominating him entirely.” This applies to all.

“Free consent is a much an obstacle to total domination as free opposition.”

The arbitrary arrest of innocent people destroys free consent…

452 Camps – makes death anonymous – part of the secrecy (of camps) process.

453 “… the distinguishing line between… the murderer and his victim, is constantly blurred.”

“Torture, to be sure, is an essential feature of the whole totalitarian police & judiciary apparatus…”

455 “After the murder of the moral person and annihilation of the juridical person, the destruction of the individuality is almost always successful. Conceivably some laws of mass psychology may be found to explain why millions of human beings allowed themselves to be marched unresistingly into the gas chambers, although these laws would explain nothing else but the destruction of individuality.”

Totalitarianism… utopian & unrealizable…

**456** “… the society of the dying established in the camps is the only form of society in which it is possible to dominate man entirely.”

The model totalitarian citizen can only be produced imperfectly outside of the camps.

“**It** is the very nature of totalitarian regimes to demand unlimited power (force). Such power (force) can only be secured if literally all men, without a single exception, are reliably dominated in every aspect of their life.”

“… **spontaneity** as such, with its incalculability, is the greatest of all obstacles to domination over man.”

457 “Totalitarian states strive constantly, though never with complete success, to establish superfluity of man…”

“The totalitarian attempt to make men superfluous reflects the experience of modern masses of their superfluity on an overcrowded Earth.” {This plays favorably for the globalists, but is not enough.}

“Ideologies are harmless, uncritical and arbitrary opinions only as long as they are not believed in seriously.”

“… **once** the first premise is accepted. The insanity of such systems lies not only in their first premise but in the very logicality with which they are constructed.” {Totalitarianism – very weak foundation.}

458 “Common sense trained in utilitarian thinking is helpless against this ideological super sense, since totalitarian regimes establish a functioning world of no-sense.”

“**What** totalitarian ideologies therefore aim at is not the transformation of the outside world or the revolutionizing transmutation of society, but the transformation of human nature itself.” The concentration camps themselves are laboratories… {and doomed to failure given the attempts at such nonsense in history!}

459 “… the victims in the death factories… are no longer “human” in the eyes of the executioners.” {And this must exist for todays ‘executioners’ as well – another reason why totalitarianism is doomed.}

**460** (Epilogue – 1958) “No matter what the specifically national tradition of the spiritual source of its ideology, totalitarian government always:

* Transformed classes into masses
* Supplanted the party system, not by one-party dictatorships, but by a mass movement
* Shifted the centre of power from the army to the police (opposite during the post-Stalinist Hugarian revolution - Khrushchev)
* Established a foreign policy openly directed toward world domination.

{Applied to today:

* Classes are being transformed to masses as people lose jobs/businesses and are melted into the greater whole
* Re: ‘the party system’ – long have since the globalists controlled all governments, parties, etc. everywhere (Bilderberg group)
* Army to police – this is a tricky one when one considers that elements of both factions are waking up at unpredictable rates
* World domination – (WHO, UN, Agenda 2020, etc.) – the infrastructure of ‘world domination’ has been in place and activated for some time}

464 “If lawfulness is the essence of non-tyrannical government and lawlessness is the essence of tyranny, then terror is the essence of totalitarian domination.”

465 “Total terror is so easily mistaken for a symptom of tyrannical government because totalitarian government in its initial stages must behave like a tyranny and raze the boundaries of man-made law.”

466 “Totalitarian government does not just… It destroys the one essential prerequisite of all freedom (Australia now) which is simply the capacity of motion which cannot live without space.”

“Total terror, the essence of totalitarian government exists neither for, nor against men. It is supposed to provide the forces of Nature or History with an incomparable instrument to accelerate their movement.” {(ideological base)(ref. 364) This paragraph is important – it goes into the “will of man” vs. the “freedom of man”, which can be the same thing.}

467 “that only tyrannies are liable to be destroyed from within, to decline by themselves, whereas all other governments are destroyed through external circumstances …” (Montesquieu) {common to all falsehoods/evil – totalitarianism can be thought of as a tyranny (similar ideologies) – see 478}

“… such guiding principles and criteria of action are, according to Montesquieu, honor in monarchy, virtue in a republic and fear in a tyranny.”

“In a perfect totalitarian government, where all men have become One Man, where all action…” {brilliant (& warped) statement – the fall of the cabal i.e. getting the agenda out requires non-integrous volunteers to execute the principles}

“Just as lawfulness in constitutional government is insufficient to inspire & guide men’s actions, so terror in totalitarian government is not sufficient to inspire & guide human behaviour…”

Fear – no longer useful when it no longer avoids the dangers of man’s fears.

468 Totalitarian ideology – 2-sided preparation – executioner/victim – fit everyone equally well with each.

2 last paragraphs on ideologies/isms – important

“… [ideology] pretends to be scientific philosophy.”

469 Ideologies breakdown “… however, the only possible movement in the realm of logic is the process of deduction from a premise.”

470 Ideologies (examples – 20th century) – racism, communism.

470-1 Three totalitarian elements peculiar to ideological thinking:

1. Total explanation claim – past, present & future predictions (but not what is)
2. Becomes independent of all experience from which it cannot learn anything new; becomes emancipated from reality; insists on a “truer” reality – sixth sense stuff; totalitarian movement emancipates thought from experience & reality
3. Since ideologies have no power to transform reality (Truth cannot be altered), ideological thinking orders facts into an absolutely logical procedure which starts from an axiomatically accepted premise, deducing everything else from it; that is it proceeds with a consistency that exists nowhere in the realm of reality.

**474** “The ideal subject of totalitarian rule… people for whom the distinction between fact and fiction (i.e. the reality of experience) and the distinction between true and false (i.e. the standards of thought) no longer exist.” {David Hawkins}

“It has been frequently observed that terror can rule absolutely only over men who are isolated against each other and that, therefore, one of the primary concerns of all tyrannical government is to bring this isolation about.”

“… power always comes from men acting together.” {can be Power or force – Hawkins}

475 “But totalitarian domination as a form of government is new in that it is not content with this isolation and destroys private life as well.”

477 “There must be a God because man needs one being whom he can trust.” Luther

478 “Totalitarian domination, like tyranny bears the germs of its own destruction.”

479 “… “that a beginning be made man was created”, said Augustine. This beginning is guaranteed by each new birth, it is indeed every man.” {problem for totalitarianism & oppression}

480 The Hungarian Revolution – Oct. 1956 uprising – “… the first and yet unique instance of a people’s spontaneous uprising against total domination.” (preface)

“… the flames of the Hungarian revolution illuminated the immense landscape of post-war totalitarianism for twelve long days.”

“… Russian occupied Budapest…”

“… one year after the revolution the defeated & terrorized people have still enough strength of action left to commemorate once more in public the death of their freedom…” “… shunned all places of public entertainment” {? – a stand against the ‘establishment’}

Russia “liberated” Hungary (end of war – 12 years prior to the revolution) from Nazi domination – meanwhile Moscow agents secretly ruled the country and publicly took out the supposed communist rulers in a show.

481 the 20’s – totalitarian shape is not yet formed

482 “… public opinion apathetic…” {occurring now in N. America – the need for activism/protests}

“… Hungarian revolution had no leaders. It was not organized. It was not centrally directed. The will for freedom was the moving force in every action.” (unique)

483 In the 5 years since Stalin’s death no appropriate successor was known or evident. “The first stage in the succession struggle was a competition for popularity…”

485 “Khrushchev learned from Stalin that every group of people who begin to show signs of class identity and solidarity must be broken up, ideologically for the sake of a classless society and practically for the sake of an atomized society which alone can be totally dominated.”

488 “… the law against ‘social parasites’…” Khrushchev {sounds like Kissinger now}

489 Post-Stalin changes – shift from police to army

Police over military apparatus is a hallmark (totalitarianism) as follows,

* Suppress population at home (domestic violence),
* Fits the ideological campaign to global rule.

493 “… the deadly spell of impotent apathy which totalitarian terror and ideology cast over the minds of men.”

“… something unheard of [occurred] – open rebellions in Poland and Hungary…” {signifies elevations of consciousness}

494 “… the rebellion in both countries started with intellectuals and university students…” (surprised Moscow) Motivation – freedom & Truth. {uncharacteristic/different now – 66 years of academic indoctrination produces that ‘academia most susceptible to mass-formation’ – Le Bon}

“… **human** nature is unchangeable, that nihilism will be futile, that even in the absence of all teaching, and the presence of overwhelming indoctrination a yearning for freedom and Truth will rise out of man’s heart and mind forever.” (voice of Eastern Europe – radio (Munich))

495 “Whatever our convictions and hopes concerning human nature may be, all our experiences with these regimes indicate that, once they are firmly established, **factual reality** is a much greater danger to them than an innate yearning for freedom. We know this from the Stalinist measure to deport the returning soldiers for the Russian occupation army *en masse* to concentration camps because they had been exposed to the impact of reality…” {**This** constitutes a **major** problem for the totalitarians today.}

**496** “The Hungarian people, young & old, knew that they were “living amidst lies”, and asked, unanimously… for freedom of thought.”

“… turned the rebellion into a revolution of the whole people, an uprising which spread like wildfire until no one was left outside its ranks except the members of the political police (the only Hungarians prepared to defend the regime).”

“… what had started as an unarmed, student demonstration had become an armed uprising in less than 24 hours.” (when the army was called in, they sided with the revolution)

497 Once the people united instant changes in the group occurred from the lack of ideological referencing – fraternity – the same happened with the dissolution of Naziism {this is an important phenomenon which can be felt currently and will be the take-over effect in directing this planet to Light & Life}

502 “They were guided by the very realistic understanding that freedom resides in the human capacities of action & thought, and not in labor and earning a living.”

509 “… and we do not know yet whether this repetition of the relatively bloodless 20’s will again be followed by a full-fledged terror like the 30’s…” (re: the Khrushchev rise to power replicating Stalin’s rise)

510 “Such a catastrophic development, as we learned from the Hungarian revolution, **need not necessarily entail chaos** – though it would be rather unwise to expect from the Russian people, after 40 years of tyranny (~1918-1958) and the 30 years of totalitarianism (~1928-1958), the same spirit and the same political productivity which the Hungarian people showed in their most glorious hour.”

Notes: “Marton” – form. Hungarian citizen – born 1959 (just after the revolution (1956))

* Russians guilted & forced the Hungarian population into exporting produce to Russia
* Store shelves were empty in Hungary – this stayed this way until around 1974 when imports of ‘Western’ goods started showing up
* It was these conditions occurring (1945-1956) that precipitated the Oct. 56 revolution
* Poland and the Czech (1968) revolutions against Russia did not fare so well
* 1956 Olympics (Melbourne) – 15-20% of athletes defected
* 1956-7 – 500,000 escaped Hungary – that is why you find Hungarians in European countries and all over the world
* Date you could leave Hungary – 1989 (East/West Germany united)
* Hungary always had huge corruption – oppressed population – low wages, etc.
* 1966 (elementary school) – still could see holes in buildings from either WW2 or the revolution
* Hungary – 5-10 years to get a phone line; years to get a car after down paying and ordering

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