



# The Phyllis Schlafly Report



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## Surrender, Betrayal, and Giveaway of the Crown

On January 5, 1978 the Carter Administration surrendered the Crown of St. Stephen to the illegitimate, Communist regime in Hungary headed by the Soviet stooge Janos Kadar. This is the same regime known to history as the "Butchers of Budapest" because of the inhuman acts they used to torture and subdue a nation struggling for freedom.

In addition to being a surrender to the Communists, the transfer of the Crown of St. Stephen was a betrayal of the valiant Hungarian people and a giveaway to the atheistic Communists of one of the great treasures of the Christian world.

### The History of the Crown

St. Stephen's Crown is the oldest Christian symbol of freedom and authority in Europe. A gift from Pope Sylvester II, it was used to crown Stephen I as King of Hungary on Christmas Day in the year 1000. For centuries, this most sacred of all Hungarian relics was kept under the constant watch of a Crown Guard.

In order to keep the Crown out of the hands of advancing Communist armies in the closing months of World War II, Hungarian patriots entrusted it to American troops under General George Patton. The Hungarians intended the Crown to remain safely in America until Hungary is free again.

All the years that the Crown was in American custody, it was kept with U.S. gold reserves in the vaults at Fort Knox, Kentucky. It was the policy of six U.S. Presidents that the Crown should NOT be turned over to the Communist bosses who maintain themselves in power with Soviet troops. Presidents Truman, Eisenhower, Kennedy, Johnson, Nixon, and Ford adhered to this consistent policy.

In 1970 President Richard Nixon solemnly promised Joseph Cardinal Mindszenty, who was then living in the U.S. embassy in Budapest, that St. Stephen's Crown would not be handed over to the Communists.

When I met with Cardinal Mindszenty in Vienna, shortly after he left his confinement in the U.S. embassy in Budapest, he told me how much the Crown of St. Stephen means to the Hungarian people, and asked that friends of Hungary always put forth their best efforts to prevent the Crown from falling into the hands of the Communists. This we have tried to do.

### The Meaning of the Crown

The Crown of St. Stephen is a national treasure of

immense historic and symbolic significance to Hungarians and to Hungarian Americans who believe that government power is inherent in the Crown. To many Hungarians, the Crown is the symbol that Hungary will always be a Christian nation.

In his book, *1000 Years of Hungary*, Hungarian historian Emil Lengyel explains why St. Stephen's Crown is so important. The Crown is not merely a symbol, he says, but part of the Hungarian mystique. Hungarian doctrine attributes the powers of legitimate sovereignty to the Holy Crown.

Louis Szathmary, president of Chicago's Hungarian Cultural Association and owner of the famous Bakery restaurant, explained further the meaning of the Crown for Hungarians: "You must understand this Crown is not merely a hat for a king. It is a legal entity, like a corporation. The country was ruled by the Crown. All laws were signed in its name. The owner of the Crown is the spiritual leader of Hungary. Hungarian weddings are still conducted in the name of the Crown. Death sentences and university doctorates are also dispensed under its authority."

It is a total misreading of history to view the Crown as an art object whose value is in the gold and precious jewels it contains. That would be like valuing the American Declaration of Independence in terms of the paper on which it was originally inscribed, or valuing the Liberty Bell in terms of the iron it contains.

It is likewise a misreading of history to view the Crown as secular government property. It is a holy relic, a Christian relic. The Crown belongs to the Hungarian nation. It is an essential part of Hungarian nationhood in fighting infidels and in manning the ramparts of Western civilization.

### Why the Communists Want the Crown

The bloody Communist dictators -- even when they are in total *de facto* control of a nation of helpless people -- always yearn for the mantle of *de jure* legitimacy. They seek the prestige and status that accompany Western acceptance into "the family of nations." They covet all the evidences of respectability including diplomatic recognition, the protocol that accompanies embassies and consulates, membership in the United Nations, summit conferences, state visits, trade delegations, conferences of scholars, and cultural exchanges.

The Communists' passion for legitimacy represents an attempt to cover up the hard facts that they acquire and hold power by murder, forced labor, the knock on the door in the night, deceit, trickery, repudiation of agreements, and naked aggression. Although "all the perfumes of Arabia will not sweeten ... the smell of blood" from the millions they have murdered, like Lady Macbeth they continue to cry, "Out, damned spot!"

This is why Red China worked so hard to gain admission to the United Nations -- a victory that meant little more than social acceptance into a no-longer-exclusive club. The illegitimate Communist regimes are persistent social climbers seeking international respectability.

The Communists took over the Captive Nations of Eastern Europe at the end of World War II by the use of Soviet troops. Without Soviet troops, the Communist puppets would probably not be able to maintain themselves in power. The Communists know that there is no likelihood that the United States will do anything to dislodge them from their illegitimate control of those unhappy nations. But *de facto* control does not satisfy them. They want the United States to recognize their occupation of Eastern Europe as legitimate and final.

This is why the Soviets pushed so hard for the Helsinki Agreement that President Ford was conned into signing in 1975. It consisted of dozens of pages of meaningless platitudes about peace and freedom and human rights that were out of touch with the real world, but it gave the Soviets what they had been seeking -- international affirmation that the present boundaries between East and West are "inviolable."

In addition, the Soviets look upon the Helsinki Agreement as a vindication of the Brezhnev Doctrine -- the post-facto justification of the Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia in August 1968. According to the Brezhnev Doctrine, the Soviets justify their right to send troops into any Communist country in order to protect its Communist regime against any threat to its absolute control.

The Soviets never had any doubts about their *power* to take such action. But they worked relentlessly for years to achieve the Helsinki Agreement so that the United States would recognize their *right* to take such action.

That's why the Red dictator of Hungary and his Soviet patrons have schemed and sought for years to get their hands on the Crown of St. Stephen. Obviously they care nothing for its significance as a Christian relic. The Communists want it because they know that Hungarians respect the possessor of the Crown as the legitimate ruler of Hungary.

That is the very reason why the Carter Administration should not have given it to Janos Kadar.

## Who is Janos Kadar?

In October 1956, the Communist rule of Hungary became so oppressive that the people revolted and set up a free government. On November 4, Nikita Khrushchev unleashed a massive surprise attack with troops and tanks that crushed the Hungarian Freedom Fighters. The atrocities were so outrageous that they even stirred the conscience of the United Nations. The Security Council voted 9 to 1 to discuss the Soviet Union's attack on Hungary. Thousands were killed or wounded in the Hungarian Revolution of 1956.

Thousands more were forced to flee their homeland, and more thousands were imprisoned in slave labor camps. Those who are too young to remember the circumstances could learn some relevant history by reading James Michener's *The Bridge at Andau*.

Premier Imre Nagy, the leader of the last free Hungarian government, and General Paul Maleter, the hero of the revolution, were seized by the Soviets when they met with them under a flag of truce to negotiate what they thought would be the withdrawal of the Red army from Budapest. The Soviets gave Nagy and Maleter a written guarantee of safe conduct -- and then executed them.

Khrushchev installed Janos Kadar as Party boss to serve as the Kremlin's deputy in obliterating the last vestige of resistance in Hungary to Soviet Communism. He did his job well. On January 6, 1957 he proclaimed the "dictatorship of the proletariat" under the Soviet Communist Party and said that the presence of the Soviet army in Hungary "protects the peaceful life of the Hungarian people." The Kadar regime then decreed the death penalty for all opposition to the Communist dictatorship.

Twenty one years have passed and nothing has changed to exonerate Kadar or his repressive regime. He has efficiently stamped out all resistance to total Soviet control.

It was on November 4, 1977, on the 21st anniversary of the day that 2,000 Soviet tanks rolled into Budapest, that the U.S. State Department announced that President Carter had agreed to turn over the Crown of St. Stephen to the Kadar regime. The timing of the announcement to occur on that anniversary added insult to injury.

## Chronology of the Crown Giveaway

The State Department's announcement also occurred on the day Congress adjourned for the year, thereby making sure there would be no Congressional resolution to hamper the sellout.

For several months preceding the announcement, there had been leaks that the Carter Administration was planning the transfer of the Crown. Congresswoman Mary Rose Oakar, in whose district live the largest number of Hungarian Americans, made weekly and then daily calls to the State Department. She was repeatedly told, "There are no plans to change the status of the Holy Crown." After the announcement, it became apparent that such plans had actually been in progress for at least six months prior to November 4. She subsequently wrote President Carter a blistering letter stating that his handling of the Crown has been characterized by "deceit and deception." She called the transfer of the Crown "a kick in the teeth to the Hungarian people."

"Not only has the President repudiated his own human rights policy with this inappropriate decision," Congresswoman Oakar said, "but he is breaking his own campaign promise after criticizing former President Ford for being insensitive to the plight of the Captive Nations. When you no longer can trust the President of the United States, what hope is there?" she asked.

The House International Relations Committee held a hearing on November 9 at which fourteen leaders testified in favor of keeping the Crown in the United States. Five persons, all of whom either are or have been employed by the U.S. Government, spoke in

favor of transferring the Crown to Hungary. Hundreds of people traveled to Washington for the hearing in order to show their opposition to the planned transfer of the Crown.

On November 11, the U.S. Communist newspaper, the *Daily World*, featured an editorial vehemently urging the transfer of the Crown to Hungary.

On November 17, George Meany, president of the AFL-CIO, wrote President Carter that the sending of the Crown to Hungary "will cause great sorrow among many millions of people in the world" and that the Crown should not be sent to Hungary until that country has a government "freely and popularly elected by her people."

On November 29, a four-hour rally was held in Washington, D.C. Some 2,500 people paraded from the Washington Monument to the White House to the Capitol steps where Congressman Robert K. Dornan and others spoke about the glorious history and patriotic tradition of the Holy Crown. The three television networks ignored these moving events.

On December 15, the U.S. State Department released the U.S.-Hungarian joint communique on the return of the Crown of St. Stephen dated December 13, 1977. It revealed that President Carter made no demands for human rights in Hungary, no demand for freedom of religion, freedom of press, freedom of movement, or free elections, and no demand for the removal of 200,000 Soviet troops from Hungary.

On December 26, the Feast of St. Stephen, Hungarian Americans and their friends held a prayer procession in front of the White House, making a last appeal to dissuade President Carter from giving the Holy Crown to the Butchers of Budapest.

Senators Carl Curtis, S.I. Hayakawa, and Robert Dole and Representatives Robert K. Dornan, Jack Kemp and about a dozen other Congressmen initiated several lawsuits to prevent the return of the Crown. The Carter Administration assigned its top Justice Department lawyers to fight the cases with all their resources, talent, and taxpayers' money, and they were successful.

January 6, 1978 was a day of mourning for Hungarian Americans and their friends who saw in the transfer of the Crown of St. Stephen a tragic betrayal by the U.S. Government of hopes for a free Hungary.

The State Department had originally planned for the Crown to be given to Kadar by Rosalynn Carter. The Kadar government objected to this because Mrs. Carter is a woman and does not hold any government office. The Administration missed a great opportunity to call off the whole idea at this insult to the President's wife, but instead bowed to Kadar's demands that a U.S. Government official make the presentation. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance performed the rites of betrayal.

## American Efforts to Protect the Crown

Much of the valiant campaign to prevent the Holy Crown from going into the blood-stained hands of the Butchers of Budapest was led by the Cardinal Mindszenty Foundation and its dedicated Executive Secretary, Miss Eleanor Schlafly. The Cardinal Mindszenty Foundation is an educational organization whose principal work is combating Communism with knowledge and facts. Named for the great Hungarian leader, the Cardinal Mindszenty Foundation was blessed and encouraged by the late Cardinal on his visit to



Hungary's Crown of St. Stephen

the United States before he died.

The Carter Administration claims that the transfer of the Crown of St. Stephen was a reward to the Kadar regime for its good record on human rights. What a travesty! Consider these facts about the current conditions in Hungary, as presented by the Cardinal Mindszenty Foundation:

"1. In a country about the size of Missouri, 200,000 Soviet troops are present.

"2. There is no freedom of religion, of press, of speech, of movement.

"3. The Iron Curtain with barbed wire, watch towers, mines, etc., is visible at all the borders.

"4. In each Catholic chancery, a Communist government commissar has an office. No bishop's pastoral letter, sermon, bulletin, etc., may be issued without Communist approval.

"5. In 1950 many Catholic religious orders were suppressed and remain so today. Priests and religious work in factories and fields. No priest or nun may wear a religious garb. No one may apply for the seminary without prior approval from the Communist government. If one wishes to keep his job, he cannot be seen in church, nor can he be married in church, nor his children baptized in church."

The transfer of St. Stephen's Crown is a cynical betrayal of a great nation and a supine surrender to a Soviet puppet dictator. It shows the hypocrisy of the Carter Administration's proclaimed pursuit of "human rights" and its eagerness to cave in to any demands the Communists make. The surrender of the Crown of St. Stephen ranks with the surrender of the B-1 bomber and the Panama Canal. Apparently the Carter Administration will surrender whatever the Communists demand, no matter how valuable in terms of American security, taxpayers' investment, or national honor.

# Pilot Fan's First-Hand Story

The most educational briefing that Secretary of State Cyrus Vance could receive on his overseas trips would be to spend a couple of hours with the Chinese pilot who flew a MIG-19 to Taiwan. The former Chinese Squadron Commander, Fan Yuan-yen, has a lot to say, and practically all of it shoots holes in the fabric of deception that has been woven in this country about the Chinese Reds.

Those who cherish the illusion that the Chinese Reds were merely agrarian reformers, that the leaders have mellowed after so long in power, that reports of Communist murders have been exaggerated, and that despite their political tyranny the Communists have improved the economic conditions, should listen to the first-hand report of pilot Fan.

He described how the Chinese Reds massacred millions of innocent Chinese when they came to power. He said that the life of the Chinese people is so miserable today that it is "beyond the imagination of foreign visitors." He told how "many people on the mainland starve to death" and that some are even forced to sell their children to get something to eat.

Pilot Fan told how, before the Communists took over, the Chinese led free and easy lives. (This has often been confirmed by American missionaries to China who have related what cheerful people the Chinese used to be.)

"After the Communists came," pilot Fan said, "the people were massacred in the public security establishments, detention houses and labor reform camps; they were persecuted to death by the 'revolutionary committees' and 'people's communes'; they were starved to death by the control of grain, meat and bean coupons; they were purged to death as part of the continuous class struggle."

Pilot Fan pointed out that the Chinese told "a great lie" when they said they would "surpass Britain and catch up with the United States." After more than 25 years of Communist rule, "the situation is turning from bad to worse. ... The 800 million people are living in a dark hell under Communist rule."

Pilot Fan's declarations ring with the sincerity of a special quality that I call "IWT: I Was There." He was not only there in Communist China, but as a jet fighter pilot he belonged to a privileged class of those who get the best of whatever Red China has to offer.

Corroboration of how hideous total Communist control really is was given by journalist John Barron at a 1977 forum in Washington, D.C., sponsored by the American Conservative Union. He made a 13-month study of the human cost of the Communist takeover of Cambodia.

The most conservative figure of the deaths deliberately caused by the Communists since they assumed control in April 1975 is 1.2 million. This is calculated as the sum of 400,000 who died in the march out of Phnom Penh forced by the Khmer Rouge troops, 100,000 who were killed in organized massacres, and 700,000 who died in the first famine and resulting disease caused by the Khmer Rouge destruction of the entire society, its institutions and its equipment.

Joseph Stalin once explained to Winston Churchill about the way he wiped out some seven million kulaks (peasant farmers) in the 1930s: "the death of a man can be a tragedy, but the death of a million is merely a statistic."

## Red China Normalization?

During World War II, the Republic of China's mortal enemy, Japan, made tempting offers for a separate treaty which would have brought peace to China after many years of Japanese invasion. But this would also have freed Japanese divisions to fight against the United States in the Pacific and thereby increased the length and casualties of the war. To its great credit, the Republic of China rejected these offers and stood loyally by its ally, the United States.

Now the situation is reversed and the Republic of China's mortal enemy, Red China, is offering to make a deal with the United States. Unfortunately, there are disturbing signs that our State Department may abandon our longtime faithful ally and allow it to fall victim to an invasion by Red China.

Red China is demanding that the United States (1) sever diplomatic relations with the Republic of China on Taiwan, (2) cancel our 1954 mutual defense treaty with it, and (3) remove our troops and military bases from Taiwan. And what do we get in return? Red China will permit us to send an Ambassador to Peking.

The United States has absolutely nothing to gain by acquiescing in such a deal. Red China can't help us, can't hurt us, and can't afford to buy from us. Red China has nothing to sell that we need, and no money to buy what we have. The entire foreign trade of Red China with 800 million people is less than that of the Republic of China on Taiwan with only 16 million people. On the other hand, the United States has a great deal to lose by acquiescing in such a deal, namely, our moral integrity and our reputation as a reliable ally.

We've had a lot of talk about human rights. The Chinese Reds are the most inhumane regime in the history of the world, having killed some 60 million of their own people. This is why thousands of young Chinese try every year to escape by any possible means however dangerous, such as swimming to Hong Kong while dodging sharks and Red machine-gun fire. Red China helped North Korea and North Vietnam kill more than 100,000 American servicemen during our wars in the Far East.

Acquiescing in the demands of the Red Chinese for diplomatic recognition on *their* terms would prove that aggression does pay, that all our talk about human rights is a fraud, and that it doesn't pay to be an ally of the United States.

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