

Summaries

An Introduction from the Director of the Security Services Archive

► Zlatuše Kukánová

Apart from supervising the content of the new issue of the Anthology of the Security Services Archive, the director deals with the institution's 2012 topical tasks, such as the completion of the basic register of the National Archival Heritage within five years of its founding (31 July 2012) and a smooth transition to the general inventory check. In addition to its existing activities, the archive started cooperation with the Ministry of Defence in implementing the provisions of Act No. 262/2011 Coll., on the participants in anti-communist opposition and resistance. The archive staff also worked, among other things, on developing an electronic archive, restoring archival materials and making information accessible to the applicants in a faster and more comprehensive way. A difficult situation regarding the limited availability of space has been partially resolved, the interior adjustments of the Archive's structurally defective building at Na Struže Street in Prague 1 have been completed, the administrative control over the unneeded property of the Ministry of Defence transferred to the Archive in Branické Square, Prague 4. Operating expenses for the following years have been reduced.

The director is also involved in other activities, such as presenting around the country, cooperating with the National Archives in Prague, universities and other institutions of higher learning as well as the professional public, preparing archival materials for TV documentaries and exhibitions. At the international level, the existing contacts with our partners in Hungary, Germany, Poland, Austria, Slovakia, Slovenia and the USA have been intensified; we actively participated in various conferences and meetings, i.a. those of the so-called Archives Network of similar institutions of the former Eastern Bloc, establishing essential work contacts. Among the Archive's biggest successes are the election of its staff members to the Supervisory Board and the Group for archives of the so-called Platform of European Memory and Conscience and the launch of the initial stage of the pilot project of virtual reconstruction of the former military counter-intelligence records in cooperation with the Fraunhofer Institute in Berlin.

The Approach of the Totalitarian State and the State Security Services to the Roma Minority in Czechoslovakia (1945–1989)

► Tomáš Zapletal

The presented contribution is probably the first-ever comprehensive study on the topic of security services and the Roma population during the period of the so-called totalitarian state. It is not, however, a study on the Roma minority: its primary focus is directed towards the apparatus of the Ministry of the Interior (“*Ministerstvo vnitra – MV*”) and that of its subordinate agencies as well as towards the security services and the process of their creating interest in Roma people, adopting an approach to and imposition of sanctions against them. The study is based on extensive background research of archival materials which originated from the operation of the Ministry of the Interior and its subordinate agencies, especially the Public Security Police (“*Veřejná bezpečnost – VB*”). Of surprisingly rich material, four areas and, at the same time, four time periods, are being dealt with, each characterized by a specific approach of the security apparatus to Roma people.

The first period (the 1940s) was marked by a continuation of the pre-war First Czechoslovak Republic. No comprehensive national approach was created; pre-war standards were applied, slightly adjusted to suit the particular needs and local conditions. By contrast, the 1950s were marked by a dramatic shift in attitudes of the security services towards the Roma minority. After years of experimenting and searching, a strict and restrictive course of action against the Roma was gradually defined and, finally, the relevant laws passed. This course of action was more or less followed until the very late 1980s. At that time, the Ministry of the Interior was an entirely dominant body of the state administration with regard to the approach to the Roma population. It was actively involved in creating legal standards, afterwards supervising their implementation. It also controlled territorial administrative authorities as well as the general administration of ethnic minorities. At the same time, it had at its disposal vast knowledge of the then state of the Roma community. The resolute and dominant role of the security services in the approach to Roma people changed in the 1960s, when the restrictive policy of forced settlement and the practice of population control was revised. Along with changes in society, discussions were being held and new state policies sought in relation to the issue of the approach to Roma people. In the late 1960s, the dominant role of the Interior Ministry was *de facto* weakened and new commissions independent of the Ministry were being constituted. The promising approach of differentiation had been maintained throughout the years of so-called normalization. The role of the Ministry of the Interior was that of supervision over maintaining law and order, i.e. the role which generally appertains to the Ministry. Within the reviewed period, normalization years represent the longest span of time, seemingly unmarked by any particularities of substantial importance. However,

different approaches by the local Public Security Police as well as routine actions of VB officers can be found in the abundance of available material, providing good evidence of the existence of purposeful criminalization of the Roma minority.

The study confirms the well-known fact that the Ministry of the Interior and the state security services were the state authorities (not only in the presented period of time dealt with by the study) essential in shaping the approach of the state bodies and agencies towards the Roma minority.

Re-establishment and Activities of the Security Bodies in the Border Area of the District of Znojmo (May 1945–January 1946)

► Karel Koc

During the years 1938–1945, part of the Czechoslovak border area of the District of Znojmo was attached to the Reichs County of the Reichsgau Niederdonau. The post-Munich territorial revision was supposed to demonstrate the dominant presence of Germans in the border area of the district. In the end, in spite of the officially declared plebiscite, several border villages with considerable prevalence of Czech ethnics had been attached to the Reich. Even though some of them were later exempted from the annexation, the newly defined frontier of the fifth-zone did not fully respect the then demographic situation in the border area.

After the liberation, the reinstated power of the Czechoslovak Republic focused primarily on the remaining German population, holding it responsible for all the suffering brought about by war. Consequently, the German border population faced constant persecution by the members of the repressive bodies of the newly constituted security apparatus, i.e. the reinstated gendarmerie (in the country), the police (in the town of Znojmo), and other members of the revolutionary formations of the National Guard (“Národní stráž – NS”) and the resistance movement (partisans). During the internment of NSDAP (National Deutsche Arbeitspartei – National Socialist German Workers' Party) members and those of other Nazi organizations, the reinstated District National Committee (“Okresní národní výbor – ONV”) in Znojmo made use of the building of the former regional forced labour centre, officially called the “Directorate of the National Security in Znojmo – Internment Camp of Znojmo” („Ředitelství národní bezpečnosti ve Znojmě – internační tábor Znojmo“). The internment camp was commonly (even in official correspondence) referred to as “robotárna” – a place for forced labour. Unfortunately, those interned at the “robotárna” were exposed to occasional violence. However, the vast majority of NSDAP prominent members and local war criminals fled to Austria before the front arrived. A number of them took advantage of the post-war chaos, successfully hiding their identities.

The post-war expulsion of German population was partially supervised by the revolutionary formation of the so-called military guard unit, made up of members of the National Guard, and partisan groups organized in the so-called partisan police unit. The expulsion from the rest of the district's border periphery (i.e. around the former judicial district of Vranov and other German villages south-east of Znojmo) was largely supervised by 24 army group infantry regiment, Znojmo.

Eventually, the potential threat of the German population insurgencies, generally known in the post-war period as the so-called werwolf, had not arisen with such intensity as in other border areas. Moreover, a suspicion arose that some incidents may have been faked in order to justify the expulsion of Germans.

On the other hand, a number of security risks were posed by the presence of the Red Army. The rank-and-file soldiers of the Red Army would very often commit various criminal acts (thefts, rapes, murders...). For that matter, the local Czech population did not see the protracted foreign military presence in a positive light. The same went for the remaining presence of the German population in the border area – in the end, during the year 1946, it was definitively expelled to the American occupation zone in Bavaria.

Guarding the Peace

Creating the Border Guard's Public Image in the Years 1948–1956

► Eva Palivodová

The study deals with the topic of presenting the Border Guard (“Pohraniční stráž”) to the public in the years 1948–1956 through its image in fiction, press, visuals as well as through the events meant to represent the Border Guard – especially the first celebrations of the Day of the Border Guard in 1956. The final part of the study covers the co-existence and everyday interaction between the guard officers and local people, since the direct contact played an essential role in shaping the general public's attitude toward the guard. The main forms of such co-operation were gathering intelligence (Border Guard Helpers – “Pomocníci Pohraniční stráže”), co-operation through the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia and the Czechoslovak Union of Youth, organizing cultural events, work with children and young people, etc.

The study focuses on the methods of the Border Guard's public presentation and on those elements of the image of a typical Border Guard officer which were highlighted by different means of communication. A few leitmotifs were accentuated – a Border Guard officer as a hero confronting an insidious foreign enemy lurking behind the border; his sacrifice for the homeland, service in harsh conditions, separation from both his loved one and family, sacrificing his life; adventure – life in the wilderness; connection with working people; animals used by Border Guards – dogs, horses.

Of literary sources, valuable information in that respect is contained in the works of Rudolf Kalčík, the author of both the book and the film “King of the Šumava” and of a number of stories based on the topic of the Border Guard. Visual images of Border Guard officers can be found in the period posters, in the photographs of *The Czechoslovak Soldier* (“Československý voják”) magazine, and in films. While images of Border Guard officers appeared very rarely in press with nationwide coverage (e.g. *Rudé právo* daily), which often portrayed them as general members of the Czechoslovak armed forces, there were specialized periodicals which played an important role in the creation of their self-image – those of *The Border Guard* (*The Border and Interior Guard* – “Pohraniční stráž a Vnitřní stráž”) and *The Border Patrol* (“Pohraničník”).

The article also deals with interaction between the Border Guard officers and population in border areas in search of an answer to the question whether successful co-operation with local people in guarding the border had been achieved. This was supposed to be one of the main objectives of the propaganda as it was trying to spread the good image of the Border Guard – to recruit informers and thus enhance the border security and increase the impermeability of the so-called Iron Curtain. In the years 1948–1956, propaganda failed to fulfill that objective – Border Guard commanding officers complained of local people displaying indifference to the protection of the border.

A Fly in the Web

Jiří Hošek's Career in the Communist Ministry of the Interior

► Milan Bárta

Jiří Hošek was among the many young people who, influenced by the war experience, joined the newly formed Ministry of the Interior (“Ministerstvo vnitra – MV”) in May 1945, at the same time becoming members of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia. Intelligent and efficient, Hošek was soon not to be overlooked by his superiors and transferred to a new position which involved the processing of the Ministry's personnel matters. At that time, this practically meant work on strengthening the position of communists, weakening that of non-communists. At work, Hošek met many a prominent person of the then security services, e.g. Karel Černý, Jindřich Veselých, and especially Josef Pavel, whose close colleague and admirer he remained throughout his life.

During the first half of the 1950s – in the period of the greatest political trials, Hošek became suspected of involvement in anti-state activities, especially because of his contacts with Josef Pavel and Rudolf Slánský, but also because of his partly Jewish background. He was fortunate enough to escape arrest and sentence, but he was demoted and transferred from the State Security Service (“Státní bezpečnost – StB”) to the Public Security Police (“Veřejná bezpečnost – VB”).

As the second half of the 1950s brought about the revision of the political trials, Hošek was acquitted and joined the political apparatus of the Ministry of the Interior. In 1963 he was transferred to the newly formed Study and Analytical Group (which later changed into the Study Department of the Ministry of the Interior). Members of the group initiated the first proposals to reform the security services. A considerable number of the key participants in the Prague Spring emerged from this group as well.

In 1968 Jiří Hošek became the Chief of the Secretariat and one of the most loyal co-workers of Minister Josef Pavel. He strongly opposed the Warsaw Pact member states' armed invasion of Czechoslovakia in August 1968, as a result of which he became one of the chief security officers to be interned and shortly afterwards abducted by the Soviet soldiers to the German Democratic Republic. After his release at the beginning of September 1968, Jiří Hošek asked to be relieved of his office, since there was no suitable position for him available under the new Minister Jan Pelnář. Like a number of his reformist colleagues, he found a short-lived refuge at the Institute of Criminology; soon after that investigation of his 1968 activities started and, once again, he was facing trial. He was expelled from the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia in 1970 and, at the same time, dismissed from the Ministry of the Interior. He had difficulty finding civil employment, living under constant surveillance by the State Security Service until 1989. After 1989 Hošek was rehabilitated and shortly worked as a consultant for an expert commission of the Minister of the Interior Richard Sacher.

Having actively participated in the establishment of the communist regime, Jiří Hošek was by no means its innocent victim. The harsh sobering 1950s resulted in his and his like-minded colleagues' attempts to reform the communist security services in 1968. Nearing the end of his life, he started to take a more critical look at some of the past events, regretting not to have realized much sooner how much evil had been perpetrated in the name of communism...

Bishop Josef Hlouch in the Selected Documents of the State Security Service

► Petra Gabrielová

An exhibition called “I will carry you all in my heart forever... Bishop Josef Hlouch of České Budějovice (1902–1972)” took place in České Budějovice from 11 to 29 June 2012. Making documents from mostly state, church and specialized archives publicly accessible, the exhibition documented the life and work of Bishop Josef Hlouch. As part of exhibition preparation, background research had been carried out at the Security Services Archive (“Archiv bezpečnostních složek – ABS”) on the Bishop's work and his persecution by the security forces of the totalitarian state. The research was conducted by Světlana Ptáčníková and Petra Gabrielová.

The presented article is meant as an illustrative example of the State Security Service (“Státní bezpečnost – StB”) sources pointing to a difficult period in Hlouch's life during which he was confronted by the totalitarian power of the communist establishment. The selected Security Services Archive documents presented at the exhibition in České Budějovice were originally supposed to prove the persons they concerned, as well as Bishop Josef Hlouch, guilty of allegedly being involved in “hostile” or “anti-state” activities. Document reproductions are accompanied by commentaries whose author aimed to separate reality from ideologically tinted communist propaganda, pointing to the State Security Services' unreasonable interpretation of Josef Hlouch's activities as allegedly “hostile” or “anti-state”.

The illustrative example includes the following documents: an outline of the written record of a statement by Tomáš Beránek, Vicar of the Vodňany Vicariate, an extract from the written record of interrogation of Evarista Marie Soukupová, a nun who attended to Josef Hlouch during his internment, an evaluation of the file kept on a group of people – Antonín Jarolímek, Augustin Malý, Josef Šídlo and other close co-workers of the bishop, a copy of Antonín Jarolímek's message, secretly handed over to Josef Hlouch, and a proposal to release Bishop Josef from internment. The article includes a brief biography of the bishop, in which the author focused primarily on Josef Hlouch's attitude towards the communist establishment.

Legalization of the Apostolic Church in Totalitarian Czechoslovakia with Regard to the State Security Service Archive Sources

► Petra Gabrielová

The article deals with the historical development of the relationship between the totalitarian state administration and the congregations of Resolved Pentecostal Christians, which emerged as early as the beginning of the twentieth century, mainly in Těšín region (North Moravia), and later in Prague and Brno. The text covers the period of about 1963 to 1988, when the representatives of the future Czech Apostolic Church conducted negotiations with the Secretariat for Religious Affairs of the Ministry of Culture officials on the permission to pursue religious activities. The process of legalization of the Apostolic Church – Pentecostal Church – under the communist establishment in Czechoslovakia was very complicated, reflecting the establishment's attitude aimed at eliminating churches and religious congregations generally and, in case of Pentecostal Church followers, also pointing out differing procedures in religious policy employed by the communist state administration. The Apostolic Church was legalized in the Czech Socialist Republic on 25 January 1989. Nowadays, based in Kolín and with slightly fewer than five thousand members, the Apostolic Church has congregations and preaching stations practically all over the republic. There is also

The Higher School of Missions and Theology and a publishing house of the Church in Kolín. The Church issues the “Life in Christ” (“Život v Kristu”) magazine and presents its activities online at www.apostolskacirkev.cz.

The study draws on three groups of archive materials: sources from the collections of the National Archives, documents from the Church archives and, finally, archive materials from the Security Services Archive, which could not have been left out as the State Security Service played a significant role in the subject matter covered by the article.

The Story of Jaroslav Kaska, a Courier

► Jiří Petráš

The late 1940s and the first half of the 1950s were marked by Cold War tensions between the two world political systems. Competition was underway in economy, finance, politics, culture, even in the military sphere. The irreconcilability between the two world systems manifested itself in different ways, shaping among others the national border and the way of ensuring border security. Thus the Czechoslovak border areas also grew in importance, with the border line separating not only countries, but the whole political systems.

So-called couriers represented a special phenomenon of that time – pawns of the battlefield. Judging objectively, their importance was rather symbolic given the fact that they were mere chessmen in the hands of their superiors, who could sacrifice them any time if it suited their own interests.

Jaroslav Kaska, born at Suché Vrbné near České Budějovice, was one of those people. He was born on 3 April 1925 at 902 Dobrovodská Street (“Dobrovodská ulice”) to a master baker Josef Kaska and his wife Marie. Kaska was raised as a patriot, with respect for Masarykian principles and national socialist ideas. He was a member of Sokol sport organization. At the beginning of 1943 he applied to join the Institute for Youth Education (“Kuratorium pro výchovu mládeže”).

Just before the end of World War II Kaska’s young life took another twist. According to information in his application form to join the National Security Corps (“Sbor národní bezpečnosti – SNB”), dated 27 June 1945, he was allegedly a member of “Macháček” partisan group from 5 to 22 May 1945. However, his career with the National Security Corps ended as early as the following year, 1946, when he was discharged from active duty. In September 1948 Kaska started his compulsory military service. Part of his service took place at the military airport at Planá, where he was approached by several former Czechoslovak RAF pilots who asked him if local people could get them across the border. It was at that point that Kaska started to be involved in people smuggling.

At the end of February 1949 Kaska avoided arrest by escaping abroad, where he became a paid secret agent – courier. His mission assignment in Czechoslovakia in August 1951 turned out to be his last one too – on his way back he was arrested on

17 August after crossing the Czechoslovak–Austrian border and spent the following nine months in Soviet jails. After that, he was transferred to Czechoslovakia.

Kaska was not released from prison until 1964. Since that time, his permanent residence was at České Budějovice, where he also married for the second time. He died on 29 February 2004 and is buried in Mladé cemetery in České Budějovice.

Administration of Counter-intelligence Documents Unified Document Management, Statistical and Archive System of the State Security Service in the Years 1970–1989

► Pavel Žáček

After the consolidation of the situation in the security apparatus both at the federal and national levels, the leadership of the State Security Service commenced the necessary administration adjustments aimed not only at conspiratorial methods improvement, substitution of some of the “exposed” procedures, reorganization of document management and statistical as well as archive systems, but also at unifying the state security management. At the central level, this kind of specific activity was dealt with by the independent Statistics and Register Department, which was gradually transferred under the responsibility of the Secretariat of the Federal Ministry of the Interior and that of the Interior and Organizational Administration Section of the Federal Ministry of the Interior.

Thus the new directives of 1973, and especially 1978, on document management, statistics and administration were meant to bring order to excessively encumbered file records of the counter-intelligence departments of the State Security Service and the Border Guard. In the years to follow, only minor adjustments were made to the directives, and, until the end of the 1980s, the invitation addressed to relevant departments to provide comments on the new directives failed to complete the process as well.

The Position of the Expert Commission on the EZO Information System of the Federal Ministry of the Interior

► Peter Rendek

At the beginning of 2011, the authors of the “Position of the Expert Commission on the EZO¹ Information System of the Federal Ministry of the Interior” prepared background materials for the management of the Security Services Archive (“Archiv

1 EZO – Evidence zájmových osob – register of all persons of special national security interest compiled by the State Security Service (StB)

bezpečnostních složek – ABS“) on the purpose, structure and operation of the system. The document deals with the relation between the EZO system and other national security information systems, the transfer of EZO system responsibility from the Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic (“Ministerstvo vnitra České republiky – MV ČR“) to the Security Services Archive, as well as with processing the request for “co-operation in infraction proceedings“ carried out by the Office for Personal Data Protection (“Úřad pro ochranu osobních údajů“), especially the request to “provide an electronic copy of the EZO database.“

In the first part of the paper on the purpose, structure and operation of the EZO system, based on archival documents, the authors present the fact that, as of 17 November 1989, or even 15 February 1990, the development of this supreme co-ordinate system of the State Security Service (“Státní bezpečnost – StB“) was far from being completed by the Federal Ministry of the Interior (“Federální ministerstvo vnitra – FMV“). The prepared database failed to have been checked and about 15–20% error rate was not eliminated. The computer version of the system was not identical with the manual card system administered by the Statistics and Register Department of the Interior and Organizational Administration Section of the Federal Ministry of the Interior. Neither were the deadlines met for the system interconnection with other information systems – especially with that of the Central File Register. Even after 15 February 1990, the EZO information system was still not completed by the Federal Ministry of the Interior. It continued to be used by the Statistics and Register Department of the FMV for co-ordination and management, and also its successor departments used it for newly established intelligence and security agencies.

As the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic (“Československá federativní republika – ČSFR“) split up into two republics, two EZO system computer versions came into being. These two versions were not identical. After 1993, along with the Central File Register system, the so-called MP database and some other databases created by the Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic, the EZO information system was integrated within the so-called WYSE system, as part of which it operated until 2007, or rather 2008.

The part of the paper about the EZO system competence (pursuant to Section 14, Subsection 1 of Act No. 181/2007 Coll. and the Government of the Czech Republic Resolution No. 852 of 25 July 2007) informs that the system was taken over by the Security Services Archive as of 1 February 2008. The transfer was officially recorded and entailed source files exported from the WYSE system from May to July 2007.

In the final part of the document, the authors describe the processing of the request of 10 November 2010 for “co-operation in infraction proceedings“ (carried out by the Office for Personal Data Protection), especially the request to “provide an electronic copy of the EZO database.“

Addressing the Issue of Anti-Communist Resistance at the Security Services Archive

► **Tomáš Bursík**

At the end of summer 2011, the Parliament of the Czech Republic adopted Act No. 262/2011 Coll., on the participants in anti-communist opposition and resistance. The Act came into force on a symbolic date of 17 November 2011. The main purpose of the Act is to show appreciation to persons who during the communist régime stood up for human rights and democracy. The author of the text aims at describing the role played by the Security Services Archive in the whole process leading to the issuance of the certificate of a participant in anti-communist opposition and resistance. At the same time, he points to some difficulties in implementing the Act which the Archive has experienced so far.

Conference on the Subject of "Activities of Czechoslovak Intelligence Services in Austria in the Years 1945–1989", Raabs an der Thaya, 8 – 9 March 2012

► **Světlana Ptáčnicková**

The Security Services Archive was represented at the international conference by Petr Dvořáček, member of the Department of Archival Funds of the Federal Ministry of the Interior in Prague, Na Struže Street, and Světlana Ptáčnicková, Deputy Director of the Security Services Archive. While the first day of the conference was devoted to the official opening ceremony, the second day saw the contributions of historians and archivists, divided into three panels: "Activities of Intelligence Services in Austria," "The Border" and "Sources, Methodological Possibilities: How to Work with Intelligence Services Files." The conference received considerable media attention and acclaim. The joint project of the Institute for the Study of Totalitarian Regimes, the Security Services Archive and the Ludwig Boltzmann Institute will continue in the future. The information on its outcomes will be made available to the public e.g. through the next planned conference.

Conference “We Won the Prize.

Czechoslovak Society and Socialism 1945–1970“

Faculty of Education, Charles University, Prague, 24–25 May 2012

► **Jitka Bílková**

The author gives a brief account of the international scientific conference entitled “We Won the Prize. Czechoslovak Society and Socialism 1945–1970“, which saw thirty-five contributions mapping the life in socialist Czechoslovakia from different perspectives. The conference, held by the Faculty of Education of Charles University in Prague from 24 to 25 May 2012, was actively participated in by the Security Services Archive staff members. Both beginner researchers and a number of renowned members of Czech and foreign scientific institutions took part in the conference.

Working Visit to the United States (Washington, D.C., Boston)

► **Jitka Bílková, Xenie Penížková**

At the end of August and the beginning of September 2012, a delegation of staff members of the Security Forces Archive and the Institute for the Study of Totalitarian Regimes went on a three-week working visit to the United States. Just as several times in the past, the visit was made possible through our partner institution, the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, on the basis of a cooperation agreement signed between the Museum and both Czech institutions in 2008. The report on the working visit describes visits to important memory institutions in both the US capital, Washington, D.C. and Boston, as well as other working meetings. The authors aimed, first of all, to introduce the collections of the visited archives, give the readers an idea of how these institutions work and draw their attention to interesting documents related to Czech history that are lodged in the American archives.

Going on a Field Trip with the Czech Archive Society

► **Pavel Vaněk**

A professional excursion in the Pilsen and Chodsko regions, organized by the Czech Archive Society, took place from 4 to 6 October 2012. It was attended, among others, by Jana Barbora Slaběňáková and Pavel Vaněk, staff members of the Security Services Archive. On the first day of the excursion, the participants visited the Pilsen-South State District Archive in Blovice and then went on to visit the Pilsen State Regional

Archive in Klášter near Nepomuk. The following day, the excursion continued to Horšovský Týn, a town where the Domažlice State District Archive is located. The second part of day two was devoted to Pilsen. The day's schedule included a visit to the Victims of Evil Memorial (Meditation Garden). The memorial/garden was created by Luboš Hruška, a political prisoner of the 1950s, who started working on it in the 1960s. On Saturday, the last day of the excursion, the focus was on national history. The participants moved from Domažlice to Kout na Šumavě, where they took a tour of the restored brewery. The excursion ended with a visit to the chateau in Chudenice. It can be said that the trip was a success, giving the participants an overview of the operation of archives in the regions as well as information on the possibilities of adapting buildings to suit archives purposes.

Conference “Need to Know II”, Odense, 16–17 October 2012

► Daniel Běloušek

On 8–9 November 2011, the first international conference “Need to Know: Intelligence and Politics: Western and Eastern Perspectives” took place in Brussels. The conference was organized by the Polish Institute of National Remembrance (IPN) in cooperation with the Center for Cold War Studies of the University of Southern Denmark. A year later, the second, follow-up conference was held in a picturesque Danish town Odense, this time entitled “Need to Know II: Lessons Learned.” The conference focus was on the importance and activities of both Eastern and Western intelligence services in the period after the Second World War. In their contributions, the historians of Poland, Denmark, Austria, Romania, the USA and other countries analyzed various methods and forms of intelligence work in a broader economic and political context. The conference deliberations were divided into three interconnected thematic sections, covering the issues of human sources recruitment and management within the so-called HUMINT, defectors and their reasons for defecting, emigration, and general issues of crisis management.

Security Services Archive Materials as Part of European Heritage

► Pavel Kugler

On 8 and 9 November 2012, a meeting of the Platform of European Memory and Conscience (hereinafter referred to as “the Platform”) took place at the former Stasi prison in Berlin-Hohenschönhausen. The Platform is an organization of 37 institutions from the 13 member states of the European Union, Canada, Moldova and the Ukraine.

The Security Services Archive (ABS) is one of the Platform's founding members. The organization aims at supporting cooperation between national research institutions, archives, museums and other organizations, both public and private, specializing in the history of totalitarian regimes in Europe, with special emphasis on national socialism, communism and other totalitarian ideologies. One of the Platform's objectives is to help prevent intolerance, extremism, anti-democratic movements and the return of any form of totalitarian rule in the future.

A to Ž

The last, permanent section of the Anthology offers news, information, commentaries, as well as curiosities from the work of archivists. In the current issue, the readers can get acquainted with short contributions by Tomáš Slavík, Pavel Vaněk and Světlana Ptáčnicková.

Překlad PhDr. Lenka Šrámková