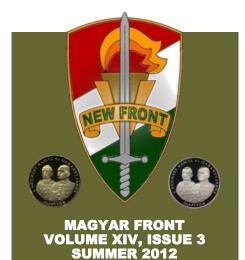


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Membership in the International Hungarian Military History Preservation Society is \$40.00 annually, and includes the *Magyar Front*.

The original *Magyar Front* was the weekly newspaper of the Frontline Fighter's Association, and was published from the early 1930s until the end of the Second World War.

A note from the Editor

Since World War II, documentation of the Horthy era Hungarian diplomatic uniform has been elusive. In 1939, Foreign Minister Count István Csáky issued a bulletin outlining his proposed military style uniform to be worn by officials of the foreign ministry who worked directly with German and Italian diplomats. One can argue that diplomatic uniforms don't belong in the realm of military history, however, especially in hindsight, such a form of dress is clearly the product of the militarization of a country and its representatives – something that certainly seems foreign today.

Even at a time when Hungary was embroiled in a world conflict, the concept of a military uniform for the diplomatic corps wasn't popular. Up until now, the only known photographs of the uniform being worn are of Foreign Minister Csáky, and many people believed that he may have been the only one to ever have such an outfit made – it is even said that Prime Minister Teleki disliked the uniform so much, that he threatened to relieve Csáky of his post if he continued wearing it.

In his memoirs, András Hory, the Hungarian Ambassador in Warsaw, recalls that the uniform design was encouraged by Döme Sztójay, the Ambassador in Berlin, and was "an exact copy of the German diplomatic official's uniform introduced by Ribbentrop." Although it is very similar to one of the German diplomatic orders of dress, the Hungarian uniform is actually the same pattern as the Hungarian River Forces semi-official blue dress uniform.

I am particularly fascinated with this uniform primarily because so little is known about it, and so far only the most basic documentary evidence has been discovered. Two years ago, while examining a photograph of Lovice Ullein-Reviczky's London home, pictured in the 1993 edition of her father's book *Német Háború* – *Orosz Béke* (German War - Russian Peace), I noticed a curious dagger hanging on the wall, in the background. Although the image of the dagger in the photo was tiny, I could still see that it did not correspond either to any type of Hungarian edged weapon, or anything else I was familiar with, from any other nation. I asked for a detailed photograph of the weapon, and I confirmed that it was the only known specimen of the Hungarian diplomatic official's dress side-arm (see the Magyar Front, Fall 2010). Lovice Ullein-Reviczky kindly let me use images of the dagger, and I continued my investigation by asking her if she could check her vast family archives if there are any pictures of her father wearing a curious dark blue naval-style uniform, and quite incredibly she mailed me an original studio portrait of Antal Ullein-Reviczky, resplendent in his newly tailored diplomatic official's dress uniform, to scan and reproduce in the Magyar Front.

This photograph proved to be very historically significant – the only photo known to exist of someone other than Count Csáky wearing the uniform. It also clearly shows the unique sleeve rank insignia, which differs from the special coat-of-arms badges worn by the foreign minister. These two pieces, the portrait and the dagger, were ground-breaking discoveries on their own, and they honed my interest in, and excitement about, the subject even further. So far, neither a single component of this uniform, nor photos of diplomats wearing it (other than Csáky) were known to exist, and yet, recently, I was involved with another discovery.

I was searching a popular Hungarian online auction when I came across a listing for a "World War II era military cap." I clicked on the link, and what was described as an unknown old military hat was none other than an example of a Hungarian diplomatic official's peaked cap. It was a neglected, dusty old hat being sold by an unknowing small-town Hungarian antique dealer. The starting price was very cheap too – it was clear that the seller thought it was some kind of old yachting cap and didn't value it very highly. As the days passed, I kept an eye on it, and even noticed some banter about it on one of the well-known Hungarian military forums – some casual conjecture about what kind of hat it was, and how it may well be a diplomatic cap. I began to be worried that I would have some competition near the end of the auction.

In the meantime, I discussed the matter with Dr. Gergely Sallay, and told him that the hat had the initials "Dr U E" in the hatband, and he pointed out that there was a diplomat named Dr. Elemér Újpétery. I continued the exciting discussion with my friend Péter v. Laborc, who always very kindly takes care of the bidding and posting of any items I find on this very same auction. We both knew that this would be one of the most valuable Hungarian 20th Century peaked caps, so we agreed to split the cost if the need be (at the time, I was willing to scrape together at least \$2,000.00 for my half).

Péter waited until the final moments of the auction and nervously placed our bid – the auction ended, we were the winners, and the hammer price was not quite \$300.00. We were ecstatic, and agreed that the hat would remain in Péter's collection of Hungarian uniforms (one of the world's largest), and I would introduce it exclusively to the public through the *Magyar Front*.

Why did it sell for so little? The usual reasons — our Hungarian history and culture is obscure, and too few people understand and preserve it. I later found out that one of the people bidding against us, having no idea what kind of headgear it really was, intended to replace the insignia with an air force cap badge and resell it as an air force blue dress cap.

I decided to dedicate this entire issue of the *Magyar Front* to this rare uniform for two reasons – firstly to showcase this very interesting piece of (militarized, if not purely military) Hungarian history, but also, even more importantly, to ensure that more details about it become known and understood. I hope that this new information will help uncover more related artefacts, and educate people about the importance of recognizing the true historical significance of our cultural objects that often remain unnoticed and forgotten.

Our IHMHPS team has proved once again, to be the finest group of individuals who voluntarily work for the preservation of our military history. Lovice Mária Ullein-Reviczky and the Antal Ullein-Reviczky Foundation in

Hungary have generously let us feature some priceless images. Viktor Szontagh of Austria has translated the original uniform regulations and the biographical information of Dr. Elemér Újpétery (from his 1987 memoirs Végállomás Lisszabon: Hét Év a Magyar Királyi Külügy Szólgálatában) into English; UK Vice President Jack Keir has written an excellent overview of Antal Ullein-Reviczky's diplomatic career; and Major Dr. Tamás Baczoni and Dr. Gergely Sallay of the Hungarian Military History Museum have constantly been ready to answer my neverending questions. Péter v. Laborc, another true comrade, intimately shared this historical journey with me.

I have created colour illustrations of all of the items I am absolutely sure about, and left some as pencil sketches if there is a degree of uncertainly as to their exact details. For example, even after examining every known newsreel, frame by frame, of the Hungarian foreign minister, as well as all known photos, I have yet to see a view of the unique diplomatic official's shoulder straps from above. After many hours – days, in fact, of study, I have made sketches of the shoulder straps to the best of my ability. I don't believe that conjecture should be a part of scientific historical study, however, I feel that it is important to at least present what I believe the shoulder straps may have looked like in order to raise awareness, and maybe even facilitate the recognition of such accouterments in the future. Any mistakes in their representation are entirely my own. P.Cz.





FOREIGN AFFAIRS BULLETIN ISSUED BY THE ROYAL HUNGARIAN MINISTRY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS

OFFICIAL REGULATIONS

No. 229/1-1939

Regulations concerning the wearing of the uniform and *diszmagyar* [traditional Hungarian costume] by functionaries of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs

I hereby order the regulations concerning the wearing of the diszmagyar No. 10.377/1a-1921 (published in the *Foreign Affairs Bulletin* No. I/2) and No. 75/1b-1922 (published in the *Foreign Affairs Bulletin* No. II/1) to fall into abeyance and order the following, regarding wearing of the uniform and *diszmagyar* by functionaries of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs.

§ 1

- a) On all occasions when the wearing of a diplomatic uniform is ordered for the members of the diplomatic corps, the functionaries of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs are ordered to wear an all-black *diszmagyar* without any elaborate decoration (plain gold or silver buttons, plume holder, *mentekötő* [cloak, or *mente* chain], and sword-belt are not regarded as overly elaborate).
- b) On all formal or semi-formal occasions, when the members of the diplomatic corps are asked to appear in white tie (tail coat), black tie (tuxedo) or tail coat, the functionaries of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs are ordered (be it a domestic event or in a foreign country) to wear a uniform as described in the attachment below. It is not mandatory to order or buy such a uniform, but the wearing of it can be ordered by each office or for an official journey.
- c) Except while in Germany and Italy, whenever the wearing of a *chiffre* tail-coat (green tail-coat with velvet collar and golden buttons featuring the Hungarian crown) is customary, the functionaries of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs are allowed to wear such a tail coat.

§ 2

The wearing of military uniform or coloured *diszmagyar* in foreign countries is prohibited for the functionaries of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs, including all members of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs (as well as those who are on leave or retired).

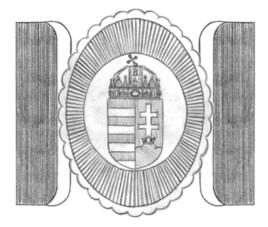
§ 3

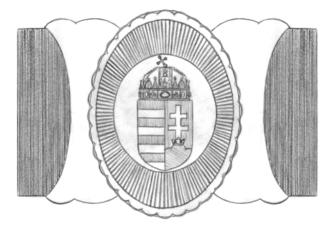
The order concerning which form of dress is to be worn is to be given by the Minister for Foreign Affairs or by his

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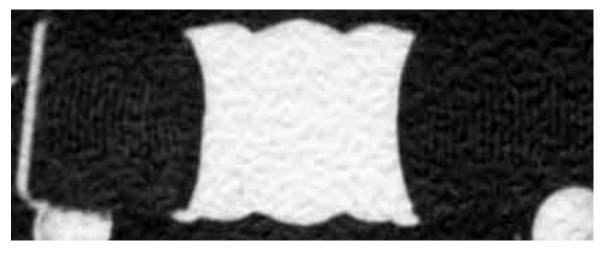
Hungarian Diplomatic Uniform Belt Buckle





Left: A sketch of the Csáky type belt buckle, with standard fittings. Right: How I imagine the Ullein-Reviczky type belt buckle would have looked, with unusual, elaborate fittings (shown actual size).

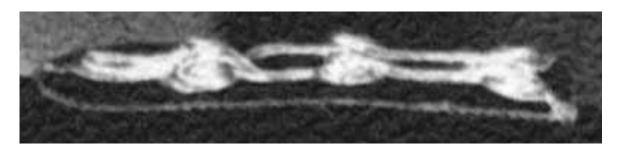


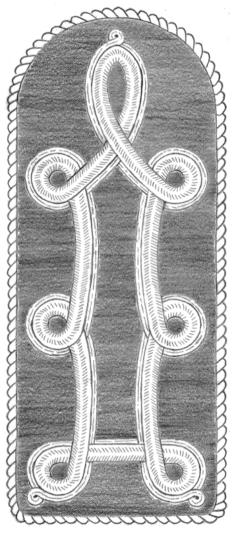


Photographs of the two known belt buckle types. Above: The Hungarian coat-of-arms is distinguishable on the buckle worn by Foreign Minister Csáky. The photograph below it is of Ullein-Reviczky's belt buckle - it was printed on textured paper and little detail is visible. The buckle's fittings are shaped differently, and the coat-of-arms is probably featured in the centre. According to regulations, the belt itself was to be "made of dark blue braid with Hungarian patterns." In reality, the belts were probably plain black, like those used by the air and river forces.

Hungarian Diplomatic Uniform Shoulder Straps







There are no known, clear images of the diplomatic uniform's shoulder straps from above.

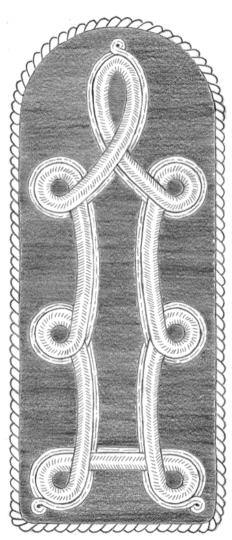
At the top of the page is a photo of Foreign Minister Csáky's shoulder strap, and below it is one from the uniform of Antal Ullein-Reviczky.

They are described as being made of black velvet, with twist cord along all sides. This would conform to Hungarian Air Force shoulder straps, and the twist cord would in all likelihood be gold.

The decoration, described as "traditional vitéz knots" appears to be a combination of gold 4mm - 5mm square-section cord (found on many Hungarian uniforms of the period) surrounded by 3mm soutache braid.

The shoulder straps were secured to the uniform with the standard system of a tongue on the underside of each strap passing through loops sewn to the shoulders of the uniform tunic.

I have illustrated the shoulder straps as they may have looked - it is impossible to be absolutely certain until more photographic evidence, or an original pair, is found.



...continued from page 4

substitute for domestic occasions. For foreign occasions, such an order is to be issued by the Head of the Office for Foreign Affairs in the respective country.

§ 4

If the functionaries of the Royal Hungarian Corps for Foreign Affairs appear at an official occasion as a body, only those functionaries are allowed to appear on such an occasion who are dressed properly in the ordered form of dress.

§ 5

Salutations and greetings are to be done with bared head (unlike military regulations) when wearing the *diszmagyar*, while if wearing uniform, it has to be done according to military regulations.

§ 6

Ordering, purchasing or wearing a uniform is only allowed after asking for and being given permission by the Presidential Department of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs.

Budapest, January 25th, 1939 Count István Csáky

Supplement to Regulation No. 229/1-1939 concerning the matters of the wearing of the uniform and *diszmagyar* by functionaries of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs

I. General Regulations

The colour of the uniform shall be dark blue (during the summer season and for daytime occasions, it can be made of white linen).

Tunic:

Reefer type jacket with [two rows of] three buttons, with low neck-line, and two lower pockets with flaps. Black velvet epaulettes with twist cord along all sides, decorated with *vitéz* [traditional Hungarian motif] knots in the centre. The epaulettes are to be fixed on the shoulders of the jacket by way of a tongue passing through two velvet loops.

Trousers:

Plain trousers, made of the same material as the jacket, with cuffs.

Headwear:

Uniform visor cap with black leather visor, with a golden twisted chin cord, which is fastened to the cap with two metal buttons; on the front of the cap, an embroidered and enwreathed coat-of-arms of Hungary with crown.

Overcoat:

Officer's reefer coat made of dark blue wool (Palmerston), plain collar made of the same material, and

dark blue gabardine trim. The collar of the coat of the Minister for Foreign Affairs is decorated with an embroidered Hungarian crown.

Buttons:

Yellow brass, with the "small" coat-of-arms of Hungary in relief.

Belt:

Made of dark blue braid with Hungarian patterns, lined in black, with a gilded metal buckle featuring the coat-of-arms of Hungary. Dagger hangers with metal Hungarian coat-ofarms buckles are attached to the belt.

Dagger:

Gilded dagger with the coat-of-arms of Hungary with white hand grip. The end of the dagger is decorated with a gilded Hungarian crown.

Tie

Black bowtie when wearing the uniform instead of "white or black tie" (with a hardened collar), black silk necktie when wearing the uniform instead of a tail coat.

Shirt:

White plain shirt.

Shoes:

Laced shoes. When wearing the uniform instead of "white or black tie," shoes are to be of black patent leather. When wearing uniform the instead of a tail coat, they are to be plain black leather.

Hosiery:

Black.

Gloves:

Made of white doeskin.

Decorations:

When wearing the uniform instead of "white tie," full decorations are to be worn; when wearing uniform instead of "black tie" or tail coat, only the ribbons are to be worn.

II. Badges of Rank

To indicate badges of rank, gold braids are to be placed on the outer part of the sleeves of the tunic, 6cm above the cuffs. The highest-placed stripe features a *vitéz* knot in the middle.

The badges of rank are as follows:

Salary Group X	2 narrow stripes
Salary Group IX	3 narrow stripes
Salary Group VIII	1 narrow stripe, 1 wide stripe
Salary Group VII	2 narrow stripes, 1 wide stripe
Salary Group VI	3 narrow stripes, 1 wide stripe
Salary Group V	1 narrow stripe, 2 wide stripes
Salary Group IV	2 narrow stripes, 2 wide stripes
Salary Group III	Embroidered silver coat-of-arms with a gold wreath
Foreign Minister	Embroidered gold coat-of-arms with a gold wreath

Hungarian Diplomatic Uniform Rank Insignia

Worn on both sleeves, 6cm above each cuff - rank insignia corresponds to the official's salary group.



Foreign Minister



Salary Group III



Salary Group IV



Salary Group V



Salary Group VI



Salary Group VII



Salary Group VIII



Salary Group IX



Salary Group X

The Hungarian Diplomatic Uniform

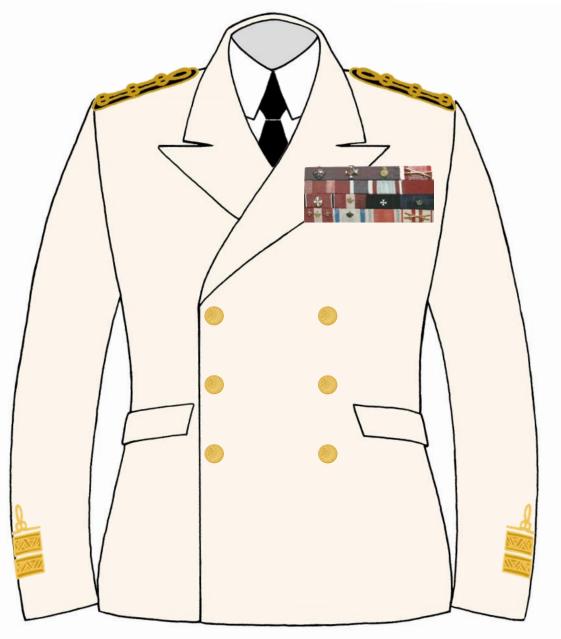




The dark blue diplomatic official's uniform worn with a bowtie for "white or black tie occasions." Full decorations were prescribed to be worn with this order of dress, as well as the belt and dagger. The illustration depicts the evening dress uniform of Antal Ullein-Reviczky.

The White Linen Summer Uniform





The summer (or daytime) white linen diplomatic official's uniform worn with a plain necktie for less formal occasions. Only ribbons were prescribed to be worn with this order of dress. There are no existing photos of the white uniform being worn - this illustration represents the summer uniform of Antal Ullein-Reviczky.



Ambassador Antal Ullein-Reviczky

Antal Ullein-Reviczky enrolled at the Imperial and Royal Diplomatic Academy before the First World War and continued his studies there in 1917, having served in the Royal and Imperial Common Army in between. Following the collapse of the soviet-style regime in 1919, he entered the Hungarian foreign ministry, serving in Paris and Geneva with the Hungarian legations before being sent to Ankara in 1929, where he served until 1935. It was there he met his wife Lovice Cumberbatch, the daughter of the British Ambassador - they married in 1929. This alliance would later be an additional cause of suspicion on the part of the Germans. Between 1935 and 1938, Ullein-Reviczky served as Consul in Zagreb, and in 1939 he was

appointed to the position of Chief of the Press Section at the Foreign Ministry on the appointment of Pál Teleki as Prime Minister.

It was with that appointment that he moved to the centre of Hungarian affairs during the critical moments of Hungary's approach to war, and beyond. Two examples show how central he was - on April 5th, 1941, he visited Teleki at about 9:00pm, where the tele-

gram from György Barcza, the Hungarian Ambassador in London, was read. That telegram warned Hungary that if she took part in the impending German assault on Yugoslavia, she must expect a declaration of war. Within hours of that meeting and the reading of the telegram, Teleki took his own life. On June 26th, 1941, a number of aircraft bombed the town of Kassa in northeast Hungary. There is still some controversy as to the origin of these aircraft, but within minutes of the event, Prime Minister Bardossy was in touch with Ullein-Reviczky seeking his advice and instructing that the news should be embargoed. Hungary entered the war shortly thereafter, and Bardossy resigned.

It was not only Antal Ullein-Reviczky who played a part in these distressing and very difficult events. At Easter, in 1941, following the German invasion of Yugoslavia through Hungarian territory, his wife Lovice made a broadcast in English on Hungarian radio, challenging the outraged British

response at the breach of Hungary's treaty commitments.

When speculation was entered into in a Swedish newspaper on the composition of the new Hungarian government, German Foreign Minister von Ribbentrop had it conveyed to the Hungarian government on March 23rd, 1942, that it would not be tolerated by Germany if Antal Ullein-Reviczky became Hungarian foreign minister, and should the Hungarians so appoint him, Herr Ribbentrop would refuse to have intercourse with such a minister.

As it later transpired, the suggestion that Antal Ullein-Reviczky might have been appointed foreign minister was nothing more than a ruse set up by the Germans to enable them to convey their feelings about Ullein-

Reviczky to Budapest, but the message transmitted by Ribbentrop tells us much about the relationship between Hungary and Germany at the time. In 1943, Ullein-Reviczky was appointed ambassador to Sweden by Miklós Kallay, who had become prime minister in March of 1942. By the time of Ullein - Reviczky's new appointment, it was clear

that the Axis was going to lose the war and attempts had begun by the Hungarian government to extricate itself from the war it had let itself become embroiled in. Ullein-Reviczky was charged with the onerous task of concluding the mission of constructing an agreement with the Allies to get Hungary out of the war on as favourable terms as possible. A huge responsibility and unenviable task, it was a clear endorsement of the abilities of the man to whom it was entrusted.

In March of 1944, following the Nazi coup, Ullein-Reviczky's mandate ceased, and he was stripped not only of his post but also of his citizenship. Following the Soviet occupation and the end of the war, it was impossible for him and his family to return to their homeland. Following a stay in Turkey, the Ullein-Reviczky family moved to Geneva, Switzerland in 1947, where Antal wrote his fascinating memoirs, *Guerre Allemande - Paix Russe*, in French (soon to be published in English as *German War - Russian Peace*).

Above: Illustration of the insignia for "Salary Group V" (shown actual size). Facing page: Ambassador Antal Ullein-Reviczky - the only known photograph of the diplomatic official's uniform being worn by someone other than Foreign Minister Csáky. The unique rank system, in his case "Salary Group V" can clearly be seen on the cuffs of his uniform tunic. He wears his dagger at his side, and a belt buckle that differs in design from that of the foreign minister (an anomaly most likely due to lack of standardization rather than to their differences in rank). According to regulations, the diplomats were to have special buttons featuring the Hungarian coat-of-arms, however, it looks as though Ullein-Reviczky's tunic has regular military Hungarian crown buttons. It is very unlikely, considering the few people who were eligible to wear the uniform, that such buttons were ever manufactured.



Dr. Elemér Újpétery's Diplomatic Official's Cap

Elemér Újpétery was born on January 19th, 1911 in Eszék (today Osijek, Croatia). His father was an employee of a shipping company, and he was often relocated, taking his family with him.

After graduating from high school in Baja, Elemér attended university in Budapest (faculty of economics, department for foreign relations and public administration), from 1929 to 1934, and graduated with a PhD. He almost immediately began his military service with the 1st Artillery Regiment in Budapest as a one-year volunteer.

Between 1935-1936 he worked for the Department for Social Politics, and focused v. LABORC COLLECTION / PHOTO himself on the problems of poor people's dwellings in Budapest (the Mária Valéria site), and in September of 1936 he enrolled with the Royal Hungarian Ministry for Foreign Relations as an official, given the task of drafting papers for his first year. After passing his admission exam, he became official as of October 1st, 1937 as an "assistant drafter," first at the presidential department, then later on in the protocol department. In this latter department he accompanied many state guests during their stay in Hungary, including Kurt Schuschnigg, the Chancellor of Austria; Cruido Schmidt, the Austrian Minister for Foreign Affairs, and Walther Funk, the German Minister of Economic Affairs.

Shortly after forming of the new government on May 14th, 1938, Prime Minister Béla Imrédy asked Kálmán Kánya, the new foreign affairs minister to transfer Újpétery to his office as his personal secretary. He accompanied

Hitler in Obersalzberg. It was also in the same year that he took part in the preparations for the First Vienna Award, which led to the restoration of some of the lost territories to Hungary. He also accompanied Kálmán Darányi to Munich and Obersalzberg, and András Rónay (the director of the Institute of Political Science) to Rome, where they where met with Count Galeazzo Ciano.

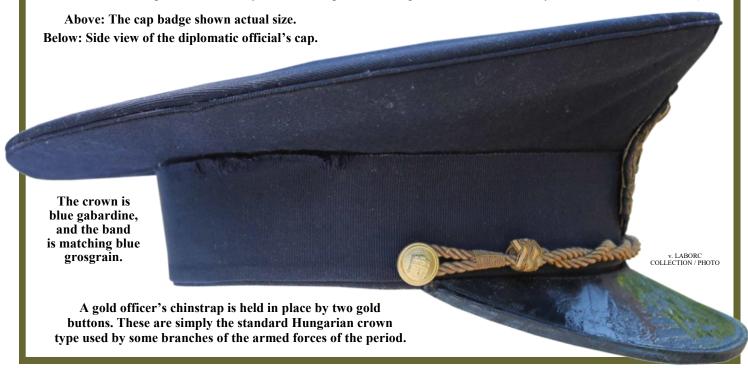
Imrédy in 1938 to Kiel, as well as often visiting

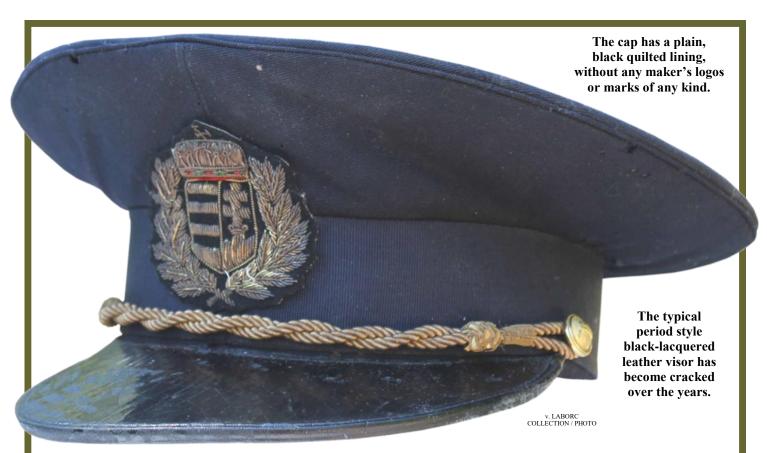
In December of 1938, after reforming the government, the new Minister for Foreign Affairs, Count István Csáky, asked for Újpétery to be transferred back to the ministry and employed him his personal secretary. He accompanied Csáky on his isits to Berlin and Rome. Later, he was sent to

debut visits to Berlin and Rome. Later, he was sent to Ruthenia and Slovakia to get a personal view of the situation and to send a report to the minister.

After forming the government on February 16th 1939, Prime Minister Teleki decided not to fill in the position of a Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs at the PM's office, but made Újpétery his personal liaison to the Sándor Palais, the residency of Regent Miklós Horthy. In preparation for the Second Vienna Award, Csáky decided that Újpétery should be the messenger who carried the record of the conference between Csáky and Raoul Bossy (the Romanian Ambassador to Budapest) via courier plane to László Bárdossy (the Hungarian Ambassador in Romania).

On November 28th, 1940, Elemér Újpéteri married Mária Magdolna Imrédy, a well-known ice skating champion and daughter of Kálmán Imrédy, the director of MÁV (the





Although the diplomatic official's cap is similar to the blue river and air forces caps, it bears a unique cap badge. Below: The stamped metal initials fixed to the inside leather band - Dr U[jpétery] E[lemér].

Hungarian National Railway) and brother of Béla Imrédy. Count István Csáky passed away the following year, on January 27th, 1941 and László Bárdossy became his successor as Minister for Foreign Affairs. Újpétery remained personal secretary.

Due to his anguish and guilt from being involved with the German attack on Yugoslavia, Prime Minister Teleki took his own life on April 3rd, 1941. Újpétery was the last person to see him alive (around 11:00pm the previous night), when he was ordered to carry a telegraph message from György Barcza, the Hungarian Ambassador in London, to Regent Horthy's residence.

In June of 1941 he was appointed Deputy Chief of the Department for Cultural Foreign Affairs, and organised the Hungarian-Italian Fair in Milan. In September the following year he was transferred to the Hungarian Embassv in Lisbon as Secretary. On March 19th 1944, his immediate superior, Ambassador Andor Wodianer, defected, and Újpétery stayed with him as his deputy.

Since Wodianer no longer had contact with Budapest, he asked him to forward the encrypted messages of what was known as the "Committee of Ambassadors" to Hungary. Újpétery did so until October 15th 1944, when he decided not to recognize the pro-Nazi Szálasy government - and was sentenced to death for doing so.

Towards the end of December 1944, he contacted the new Soviet-backed government of Hungary and reported for duty. For a long time he received no answer, however, in early March of 1946 he was ordered to transfer all of the office files and equipment of the Royal Hungarian Embassy to the senior administrative officer of the new Hungarian embassy. He followed this order, but was never again to enter the building after March 31st, 1946.

On July 8th, 1946, he resigned via a non-encrypted telegraph message, and stayed in Lisbon as a

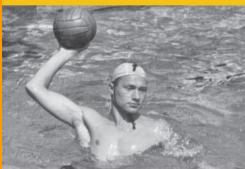
> private person, and no longer engaged himself in political matters. He worked for international trading companies, did a lot of travelling, and became a pensioner on

December 31st, 1979.

Four years later, in February of 1983, he made contact with Hungary again, giving a long interview with a reporter from the Hungarian State Radio station. He visited Hungary in August of the same year, and sixteen years later, in 1999, he was awarded the Gold Medal of the President of the Republic of Hungary by Árpád Göncz

Elemér Újpétery passed away in Brussels, Belgium on September 18th, 2001.











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DOBOGÓSOK MUNDÉRBAN

ÉREMSZERZŐ MAGYAR KATONÁK AZ ÚJKORI OLIMPIAI JÁTÉKOKON CÍMŰ KIÁLLÍTÁS

A KIÁLLÍTÁS MEGTEKINTHETŐ

ÁPRILIS 24-TŐL SZEPTEMBER 30-IG





