

SUMMARY

Karel Kaplan: The State Security speaks for itself – The testimony of the investigator Bohumil Doubek

The investigator of the State Security, the lieutenant colonel Bohumil Doubek, was the headman of the investigating sector of the State Security in the period of unlawful political lawsuits with leading communist officials in Czechoslovakia during the years 1952 - 1954. The section under his guidance was concentrated on the investigation of the so-called enemies in the Party (i.e. leading communists) and was preparing in 1952 the biggest court case of this sort with the management of the subversive and anti-Communist centre with the general secretary of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia Rudolf Slánský & Co. at the head.

At the first official examination of the political court cases in 1955 B. Doubek was imprisoned, investigated and condemned to 9 years imprisonment for using unlawful investigating methods, physical violence and psychological pressure, for forcing untruthful confessions and for manipulation with investigation records of proceedings. During his investigation custody B. Doubek decided freely to put down in writing his knowledge about the manufacturing of the political cases. His testimony provided with detailed remarks of the historian Karel Kaplan forms the main document of this work.

B. Doubek's huge testimony gives evidence not only about the particular procedure of preparing the court case against Slánský & Co., about motives of his realisation, but as well about relations in the State Security, about the role, the activity and the influence of soviet advisors, about the role of leading political officials, about the behaviour of prisoners and of investigated victims of the juridical trials. Doubek's voluntary testimony is published in its entirety. His story of events is marked by its origins and by Doubek's views and political approaches at that time. Nevertheless it provides a lot of important pieces of knowledge about the backstage of the manufacturing of unlawful political court cases.

B. Doubek's „**Handwritten affirmation to the state-security investigation in the years 1950-1953**“ can assure you of his conviction to have loyally served the Communist Party and fulfilled its political intentions.

The introduction of the senior lecturer Karel Kaplan to the extensive document introduces you to repressions of the communist regime at the turn of the forties to the fifties of the last century and tries to reply the question about reasons of such a fanatical commitment of members of the State Security not only to the manufacturing of political cases.

He follows as well the fate of B. Doubek after his premature release from prison in 1957 and the interest of leading communist officials about his social position. Attached records show to this subject as well.