



Objekt OBCHOD v spoločnosti svojej nevesty, na Malinovskej ul., ako  
špekujú na zastávke autobusu č. 24, 46, 22. V Bratislave dňa 24.7.1974  
o 15.00 hod.

O - Objekt  
N - nevesta

Fotil: Prokopenský

Suspicious citizens were  
secretly monitored by  
State Security

*"We have always followed the Soviet experience also as regards the security issues. The example of the Soviet Union shows us how to build security so that it would become a sharp sword of the dictatorship of the proletariat."*

**Rudolf Barák,**  
Minister of Interior

*"The content, tasks and objectives of the counter-intelligence are given by the security policy of the Czechoslovak Communist Party, expressed in the resolutions and decisions of the highest party and state bodies."*

**Directives for  
counter-intelligence employees**



secret service (intelligence, espionage and counter-intelligence abroad), counter-intelligence (national), military counter-intelligence, the persecution department, the department of protection of party and constitutional officials and the department of intelligence technology. Regional authorities of ŠtB were active in Slovakia, managed by the departments of the Ministry of the Interior in Prague, with an exception of only a short period of 1945–1950 and the period between 1969 and 1970, when the ŠtB in Slovakia was under the charge of the Interior Representation or the Ministry of the Interior of the Slovak Socialist Republic.

### STATE SECURITY AND FALL OF COMMUNISM

The State Security protected the power monopoly of the Czechoslovak Communist Party to the very last moments. After an outbreak of mass demonstrations in November 1989 and gradual political and social changes, crucial changes occurred also in the services of the political police. In the course of January 1990, the Minister of the Interior dissolved the departments of the State Security working against the internal enemy, and the remaining components of ŠtB were dismantled in mid-February 1990.

### MEMBERS OF INTELLIGENCE AND STATE SECURITY

Intelligence and state security tasks were carried out by approximately 700 members of the National Security Corps in the after-war Czechoslovakia. After the communist power coup in 1948 their number sharply grew to more than 2,000. In the second half of 1950s the number of members of ŠtB in Slovakia steadied at 1,200. One year before the fall of the communist regime, 1,017 member of ŠtB worked at ŠtB Units in Slovakia.

### WOULD YOU LIKE TO KNOW MORE?

Recommended websites: [www.upn.gov.sk](http://www.upn.gov.sk); [www.enrs.eu](http://www.enrs.eu)



EUROPEAN NETWORK  
REMEMBRANCE AND SOLIDARITY

## STATE SECURITY IN SLOVAKIA IN 1948–1989

*Between 1948 and 1989 the State Security (Štátna bezpečnosť, ŠtB) represented a repressive tool to suppress basic human rights and freedom in order to maintain the power of the Czechoslovak Communist Party. As a political police force of the Communist Party it participated in the persecutions, arrests and interrogations of alleged or real opponents of the totalitarian regime. With the approval of the party officials it also organised kidnappings of citizens from abroad and assassinations.*





Card of an ŠtB member in 1945

## ČESKOSLOVENSKÁ ŠTÁTO BEZPEČNOSTNÁ SLUŽBA

"Zelená"

SLUBUJEM, že z čestných a vlasteneckých pohnútok budem dobrovoľne spolu-  
pracovať s československou štáto bezpečnostnou službou k zaisteniu  
bezpečnosti ľudovo demokratickej republiky Československej.

SLUBUJEM, že budem presne a svedomite plniť všetky príkazy a pokyny pra-  
covníka československej štáto bezpečnostnej služby, ktorý mi pred-  
ložil tento sľub k podpisu, alebo osoby, ktorá mi predloží tento  
môjou podpísaný sľub, prípadne jeho overenú fotokópiu.

SLUBUJEM, že zachovám v naprostej tajnosti všetko, čo akokoľvek súvisí  
s mojou spoluprácou s československou štáto bezpečnostnou službou  
a s úkolami, sverenými mne pracovníkmi tejto služby. Ani svojím  
najbližším rodinným príslušníkom a osobám, zastávajúcim akúkoľ'-  
vek politickú, verejnú či štátnu funkciu o tejto svojej činnosti nič  
nevyzradím.

Berem na vedomie, že porušením tohoto sľubu by som spáchal  
trestný čin, pre ktorý by som bol stíhaný podľa trestných zákonov.

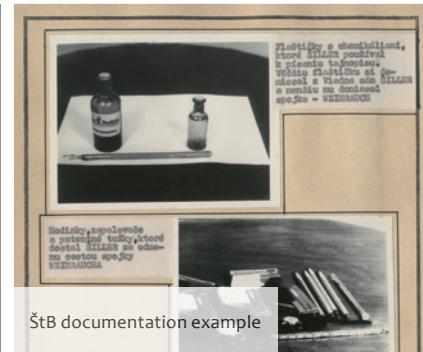
Y. H. M. R. dne 22. Mar. 1951

Josef Šlachovský  
t. b.

Tento sľub prijímam:

Vow of a secret  
collaborator of ŠtBŠtB documents were  
"Top secret"

1950s



ŠtB documentation example

1950s

1950s

ŠtB participated in "making" of public  
political proceedings against the  
"enemies" of the people

## THE COMMUNISTS AFFECTED INTELLIGENCE SERVICES

The development of intelligence services and security agencies after WWII was affected by the fact that Czechoslovakia shifted into the Soviet area of influence, and supported the hidden ambitions of the communists to gain total power. Already during the Moscow discussions in December 1943 the representatives of the Moscow leadership of the Czechoslovak Communist Party proclaimed their intention to gain influence over the security agencies of the Ministry of Interior. They started to fulfil their objective in the period of gradual liberation of the Czechoslovak territory in the spring of 1945 when the Czechoslovak Government was formed. In that period, the legislative and executive power in Slovakia was executed by the Slovak National Council and its representations. Already since February 1945 the Interior Representation was under the charge of the Vice-Chairman of the Slovak Communist Party (SCP), Gustáv Husák. With the help of Rudolf Viktorin, he pushed forward the construction of a new intelligence and security service of the police force, almost exclusively formed by members or sympathisers of SCP. The State Security, controlled by the communists, participated in the autumn political crisis of 1947 and the February coup d'état in 1948.

## THE STATE SECURITY AS A POLITICAL POLICE FORCE

After the liquidation of political opposition, the State Security gained a definitive character as a political police force. Its activity was based on the direction set up by the conclusions of the congresses of the Czechoslovak Communist Party and the decisions of the highest party bodies. Through secret co-operators, persecutions, bugging, and the control of mail it gradually penetrated into all areas of social life. Especially in the 1950s it participated in the detection of real as well as alleged opponents of the communist regime, numerous "anti-state groups" and "fabricated" political processes. It did not disdain from provocative actions. The rough methods of the State Security affected all levels of the population – students and intelligence, officials of non-communist political parties, clergymen, kulaks, farmers, workers, as well as other persons labelled by the regime as "the former people".

## SOVIETIZATION OF STATE SECURITY

The working methods and later on also the organisation of State Security departments were substantially affected by the Soviet example. A system of Soviet security advisors was a typical sign

of the process. In the mid-1950s more than 50 Soviet advisors were active in the departments of the State Security in Czechoslovakia. The chief Soviet advisor was also an advisor to the Minister of the Interior. He thus ensured a direct information flow to Moscow and its influence on the Czechoslovak intelligence services. The interconnection of the Czechoslovak Ministry of the Interior and the Soviet KGB had a form of bilateral meetings on one hand, and a form of provision of information into the United record of facts on the enemy kept by Moscow, as well as a form of professional training of ŠtB members. Employees of the secret service and counter-intelligence had been studying at a KGB University in Moscow since the first half of the 1950s, while employees of the persecution departments studied at a professional KGB school in Leningrad. Graduation from KGB schools, together with a membership in the Czechoslovak Communist Party, became a decisive factor for holding leading functions and obtaining high officer ranks.

## ORGANIZATION OF STATE SECURITY

The State Security, similar to the Public Security, was part of the National Security Corps. Its fundamental elements included the