

Letter From Paris Dancer Sparks Flight To Freedom

Editor's Note: From Paris to Ann Arbor, Mich., 1941 far in these days of jet airplanes. But to a present-day partisan dancer, the city was worlds apart. How she made this leap is a fascinating story of daring and split-second timing. This is the first of four stories, made available to the Associated Press by the Detroit Free Press and the Knight Newspapers.

By DALE NOUSE
Detroit Free Press Assistant City Editor Copyright, 1962, The Detroit Free Press

DETROIT (AP)—The slender blonde glanced up and down the Rue de Faubourg in Paris, then quickly slipped an envelope into the crumpled French mailbox.

Prying she had gone undetected, Emese Szidmanky, a 20-year-old dancer from Budapest, vanished into the crowd and rejoined a Hungarian national folk dance troupe.

That letter, postmarked the evening of Sept. 10, arrived shortly before noon two days later at a white frame house in Ann Arbor, Mich.

Mrs. Marguerite Dinka, 29, a pretty housewife and Emese's older sister, trembled as she ripped open the envelope. News from relatives behind the Iron Curtain is scarce and seldom good.

To those without relatives under Communist rule, the letter might have seemed merely cliche. It was not.

She said Emese (pronounced em-ma-sha) was then in Paris, but the troupe was going that day to northern France.

Then it added, in French: "GIVES DATES"

"We shall be back in Paris again on the 19th, 20th and 21st of this month (September). I don't know how you could arrange a meeting with me one of these days. I would like it very much if you could arrange it financially. Please excuse this hurried style, but I have only a short time. Once more, I would like it very much if this meeting could be arranged. My love to all of you. Emese."

Mrs. Dinka's brain whirled. The letter's meaning was clear. Emese knew that a pleasant trip to Paris for an afternoon visit was financially impossible for the Dinkas.

That evening, Mrs. Dinka and her husband, Stephen, 38, sat in their dining room. He is a research assistant studying for a doctor's degree in criminology. Agitated and tense, they talked.

Dinka, son of a once prosperous Budapest master butcher, had spent 13 months on the Russian front in the Second World War. When Hungary folded, he spent 38 months in Russian prison camps.

His wife, Marguerite, then 12 years old, kept two-year-old Emese safe in a crude bomb shelter until the Russians finally battered Budapest to its knees.

RECALL ESCAPE
Both remembered their own dash through the Iron Curtain.

After the October 1956 uprising failed, they sneaked out of Budapest on a train with their three children.

When Russian troops halted the train, they fled across ice-crusted fields into Austria, with Russian flares seeking them and machine-guns snuffing them.

Remembering all that, Dinka drove the morning of Sept. 13, Detroit's federal building. Jack C. Stewart of the immigration and naturalization service was sitting at a desk but pointed out the almost impossible nature of what Dinka proposed to do in a few short days.

A little later, Dinka came to The Free Press city room and stood, in heavily-accented English: "Please, may I talk with Mr. Frank Angelo?"

Managing editor Angelo was out of town, but Dinka told me he had to talk privately with someone.

He took a chair, and propped for the exact words.

"I would like to ask you to help me get a girl out of Communist Hungary. She is desperate to . . . as you say . . . defect."

He said Stewart had sent him to The Free Press.

Then he laid out his desperate plan to go to Paris and snatch the girl from her Communist guards.

BURTON
Miss Kathleen Stewart, who is a student at the Charlotte-Hospital school of nursing, spent last weekend at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Stewart, Gleanings.

Mrs. Guy Murphy and her daughter, Miss Peggy Murphy of Kiskadee, were recent visitors at the home of Mrs. Murphy's sister, Mrs. Leo Dalton and Mr. Dalton, Roseville.

Halle Doyle, a student at St. Paul's University in Charlotte, is visiting at the home of his mother, Mrs. Myrtle Doyle, Campbellton.

Mr. Russell Colquhoun, who is residing at Beach Grove Inn in Charlotte, is visiting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Edmund Colquhoun, Cape Wolfe.

The marriage of Miss Rhoda Kelly, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Kelly of Cape Wolfe, to Mr. Frank McCarville, took place recently in Hamilton, Ont.

Mrs. Paul Arsenault, Burton, had returned to the Western Hospital in Aberdeen for treatment.

Miss Ann Callaghan, Ebbeswick, recently visited with Christina and Norma Doyle in Campbellton.

Mr. W. and Mrs. Lorna Howard, who are teaching school at Grand River, spent the past weekend at their home in Gleanings.

City editor Derick Daniels and assistant executive editor Al Neuharth recognized the venture and provided all the possible help here and there involved, but they agreed abroad.

The Free Press would finance the venture and provide all the possible help here and there involved, but they agreed abroad.

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By late Friday, Dinka had his passport and smallpox vaccination. He was to leave for Paris at 6 p.m. Sunday.

Meanwhile, Neuharth placed a call to the Ritz Hotel in Madrid for Mary Goodfellow, a Free Press correspondent on European assignments. Miss Goodfellow, a New Yorker familiar with Paris and fluent in French, was to be Dinka's working partner.

The mounting excitement was chilled by a sombre observation. Mrs. Dinka pointed out that in her letter, her sister had promised to write again with her address in Paris. No letter had arrived.

Had the troupe's plans been changed? Even worse, had Emese been discovered?

Dinka and I parted that evening, tired and discouraged.

It had been decided that Dinka would make the final decision on whether he would go on what might be a wild goose chase.

At 6:30 a.m. Sunday we talked by telephone. He had decided to go.

NEXT: Rendezvous in Paris.

BEDEQUE
Mr. and Mrs. Graham of Middle Musquodobi N.S. were recent guests at the home of Rev. Dr. and Mrs. Archibald, this village.

Mr. and Mrs. Hammond Bowness and two of their children left recently on a vacation trip to Toronto where they will visit MacDougall of Argyle Shore P.E.I.; also Mrs. G.C. Morris son of Moncton, N.B.

On Sunday, September 2, Mr. Dr. S.J. Bonnell, who is vacationing at his summer home at Georgetown and Rev. J.G. Russell, Sackville, N.B., attended service at the United Church here.

Among visitors to this village on Sunday, September 2 were Mr. T.H. Christmas of Buxton, Quebec, and Mrs. Mary MacDougall of Argyle Shore P.E.I.; also Mrs. G.C. Morris son of Moncton, N.B.

On Sunday, September 2, Mr. and Mrs. Stuart Atken, Souris, were guests at the home of Mrs. Atken's grandfather, Mr. Albert Weeks and uncle, Mr. William Stavert. They also attended service at the United Church.

Rev. E.S. Weeks returned on September 4 from a visit with his son Dr. Ernest P. Weeks and family, Ottawa, and his daughter, Mrs. Thomas W. Morrison and family, Deep River, Ont., and also with his daughter, Mrs. Arthur C. Brooks and Mr. Brooks in Fredericton, N.B.



DATES EFFECTIVE SEPT. 27—28—29

GRANULATED SUGAR
10 lbs. 85¢

MILD P.E.I. CHEESE
45¢ LB.

DUNCAN HINES DELUXE CAKE MIXES
39¢ PKG.

MONARCH PIE CRUST AND CLOVER FARM PUMPKIN
25 OZ. TIN 59¢

CLOVER FARM CHOICE PEACHES
20 OZ. TIN 25¢

ATTENTION! FOOD FAVORITES

CHOICE LOIN PORK ROAST 59¢ lb.

RIB OR LOIN END Pork Chops 69¢ lb.

MAPLE LEAF Bologna 33¢ lb.

REAL LEAN GROUND BEEF 2 LBS. 99¢

GREEN CRUNCHIE CELERY 15¢ bch.

LARGE SNOW WHITE CAULIFLOWER 23¢ head

FIRM RIPE TOMATOES 23¢ lb.

Carnation MILK 6 TALL TINS 93¢

LEAN MEATY Pork Hocks 23¢ lb.

THICK SMOKED Fillets 29¢ lb.

FIRM NO. 1 CUCUMBERS 6 lbs. 89¢

NO. 1 CANADIAN ONIONS 5 lbs. 35¢

CLOVER FARM RED CUP 1 LB. BAG **COFFEE** 69¢

CUTRITE WAXED PAPER 100 FT. ROLLS 29¢

SCOTT WHITE OR COLORED NAPKINS 2 60 Count PKGS. 37¢

PUREX TOILET TISSUE 2 ROLLS 27¢

SCOTTIES FACIAL TISSUE 2 ECONOMY PAK 59¢

KRAFT DINNER 2 pkgs. 27¢

HEINZ WHITE VINEGAR 164 oz. Jar 89¢

DREAM WHIP 2 OZ. PKG. 29¢

NABISCO SHREDDED WHEAT 2 18 oz. pkgs. 59¢

PROCTER & GAMBLE CHEER GIANT SIZE 75¢

HEINZ COOKED—15 OZ. Spaghetti 2 FOR 33¢

COLEMAN'S DRY MUSTARD 4 OZ. TIN 43¢

CLOVER FARM GRAPEFRUIT JUICE 2 48 OZ. TINS 69¢

BARBOUR FEATURES KING COLE TEA BAGS 60'S GAUZE 89¢

PEANUT BUTTER 16 OZ. JAR 45¢

PICKLING SPICE 3 OZ. PKG. 15¢

ICE CREAM PERFECTION—GRAPE NUT 29¢ BRICK

BIRD'S EYE ORANGE JUICE 6 OZ. TINS 45¢

CLOVER FARM

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