

Sztojay, Dome

(also called Sztojakovics; 1883--1946), Pro-Nazi military leader in Hungary.

From 1925 to 1933 Sztojay served as Hungary's military attaché in Berlin. Next, he worked in the Hungarian Ministry of Defense, and in 1935 he was named Hungarian minister in Berlin.

Germany occupied Hungary on March 19, 1944. Three days later, Sztojay was appointed prime minister and foreign minister of the puppet Hungarian government installed by the Nazis. Under his reign, the Hungarian authorities issued anti-Jewish legislation that called for the isolation of the Jews of Hungary, putting them in ghettos, pillaging their property, and deporting them to their deaths in Nazi extermination camps.

In July 1944 Sztojay fell ill, and was forced to give up his position as prime minister to Lajos Remenyi-Schneller. By that time, the entire Jewish population of Hungary outside of Budapest had been deported, under his orders.

As the Soviet army approached Budapest, Sztojay fled Hungary with the Nazis. However, he was caught by American troops who returned him to Hungary in October 1945. On March 22, 1946 Sztojay was found guilty of war crimes and crimes against the people by a Hungarian court, sentenced to death, and shot.