

I N F O R M A T I O N

on the current results of the investigation into the case of "Charter 77"

Under section 160/1 of the criminal code, criminal proceedings began on 6 January 1977 for the crime of subversion of the republic under section 98 of the penal code, which was committed by the copying of the "Charter 77" tract and its dissemination throughout the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic and abroad, the content of which is hostile to the socialist social and state system of the republic.

As of 1 April 1977 a total of 251 persons, mainly all "Charter 77" signatories, were questioned in this criminal matter. It has been determined that the main organizers of "Charter 77" are Professor Jiří HÁJEK, the late Professor Jan PATOČKA, the writers Václav HAVEL, Ludvík VACULÍK, and Pavel KOHOUT, the former actor Pavel LANDOVSKÝ, as well as Jiří NĚMEC, Irena DUBSKÁ, and Zdeněk MLYNÁŘ, who, it has been recommended, should be prosecuted by the Department of Investigation of the State Security Forces (StB) together with Department 10 of the Federal Ministry of the Interior, for the aforementioned crime.

It has been recommended that several other persons should be prosecuted for the crime of sedition under section 100/1.a of the penal code, and other persons should be prosecuted for the crime of harming the interests of the republic abroad, under section 112 of the penal code.

A total of 49 persons have been proposed for questioning by the Public Prosecutor///Attorney General***prokurátorským pohovorům, and this questioning is still taking place.

Out of respect for the decision of the Presidium of the Central Committee of the Czechoslovak Communist Party not to prosecute any person from the ranks of the signatories of "Charter 77" for the time being, individual persons are not being prosecuted in connection with the illegal activity of "Charter 77" throughout the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic.

None the less, it turns out that "Charter 77" is continuing its activities, which is manifested in the fact that the text of "The Charter 77 Declaration" is being disseminated by sending it to individual addresses by post, putting into letterboxes, lending it to fellow employees at the workplace, fellow students at schools, tape-recording broadcasts of the incendiary foreign radio stations like the Voice of America, Radio Free Europe, and others, and in some cases by posting "Charter 77" in publicly accessible places.

That is also evident in the fact that as of 1 February 1977 the number of signatories has increased by another 208 persons, a list of whose names was published by the spokesmen in Document No. 5 of "Charter 77."