

## RADIO FREE EUROPE

Jan Novak was a happy man. That was enough to make him unusual, because not many people in Czechoslovakia are happy today. Novak wasn't his real name, but that isn't important, because he has undoubtedly changed it again by now. But, under any name, he liked this new kind of life under the Communist regime. It just showed that it wasn't too hard to get along with the Communists if a man only used his head.

And Jan was getting along fine with the local agents of the Kremlin, and he was one of the few people in Czechoslovakia who was eating well and living comfortably under the Communists. That is, he was until one day when powerful Radio Free Europe mentioned him in one of its broadcasts from a station in the American zone of Germany. "Patrons of the Narodni Cafe in Prague are warned of Jan Novak," the broadcaster said. "Novak is an informer who poses as a waiter. He eavesdrops on conversations among diners, and reports to the state police whenever he overhears any remarks uncomplimentary to the regime. Be careful around this man. Here is a description of Jan Novak: age, 35. . ."

A report to Radio Free Europe from behind the Iron Curtain a few days later was very satisfying. Jan Novak had disappeared from the cafe, his usefulness to the Communists at an end. It isn't known what has happened to him, but whatever it is, he can thank the 16,000,000 Americans from offices, factories and homes who dug down a year ago to give the money that made Radio Free Europe possible. These millions joined the appropriately-named Crusade for Freedom under the leadership of General Lucius D. Clay; this year 25,000,000 members is the goal, and \$3,500,000

to build more stations to step up this voice of truth which goes into the Russian satellite nations.

Exposing informers and stooges like Jan Novak is only a part of the activity of Radio Free Europe. It points out the chasm between Soviet promises and Soviet actions in the satellites. For instance, it reminds Rumanian listeners of the bread rationing in their countries, and then mentions the fact that trainloads of Rumanian wheat are moving across the border into Russia. If a Communist bigshot is carrying on with someone else's wife, the delectable details come from Radio Free Europe. In order to know these things, RFE has its correspondents behind the Iron Curtain, nameless, faceless men who find out the truth about Communism, and then risk their lives getting the facts out across the borders.

Two stations are broadcasting from Germany now: one short-wave transmitter in the Frankfurt area which divides its broadcast day among Hungary, Poland, Bulgaria, Rumania and Albania; and a giant medium-wave station at Munich which broadcasts only to Czechoslovakia. The Communists would give a great deal to stop this barrage of truth which is making life miserable for them. They have ranted and raved against Radio Free Europe in their newspapers and over their radio stations. They have tried jamming the big Munich station, with practically no success. They even made a formal protest to the American State Department, but with even less success, because Radio Free Europe is privately-owned and answers to no government controls.

The most important thing is that RFE broadcasts are getting results behind the Iron Curtain.

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Last fall 400,000 people gathered in western Berlin to join in dedicating a ten-ton Freedom Bell, gift from Americans. Tens of thousands slipped across the line from the Russian-controlled sector. The Freedom Bell sparked the membership and fund drive of the Crusade for Freedom before being taken to Berlin.

