

Summer Quiz Crypto No.6

Establishment of Czechoslovakia and the MAFFIE



Introduction

Establishment of Czechoslovakia and the MAFFIE

The establishment of Czechoslovakia was a process that led to the foundation of an independent Czechoslovakian state on the ruins of Austria-Hungary at the end of World War I.

Czechoslovakia was proclaimed on 28 October 1918. Its borders were defined by peace treaties and decisions based on them within the Versailles peace system.

However, its creation was not a matter of course, and important personalities must be recognized here, both at home and in exile. This includes, last but not least, the heroic performance of the Czechoslovak Legions. The fight for the establishment of their state continued, of course, at home as well. Among those who significantly helped to establish the republic was the MAFFIE.

When we say MAFFIE, we are more likely to be reminded of the mafia, a dangerous criminal organization.

But during the First World War, a completely different MAFFIE operated in our country, which fought courageously against the monarchy.

In September 1918, the MAFFIE was planning and preparing for a bloodless military coup and the subsequent takeover of power.

Significant intelligence activities included, for example, the establishment of a wiretapping station built by a well-known Sokol worker, brother Ludvík Očenášek. For a long time, telephone conversations between Berlin, Vienna and Pest were intercepted at this station.

However, many MAFFIE members were arrested. Karel Kramář, for example, was sentenced to death in 1916 by an Austrian court for high treason and espionage. However, in November 1916, Emperor Franz Joseph I. changed this punishment to life imprisonment. After 1918, Kramář became the first Prime Minister of the newly formed Czechoslovak Republic. Another member of the MAFFIE, the journalist and economist Alois Rašín, and others, were tried in the same trial.

During the First World War, the activities of the MAFFIE were closely connected with the activities of the Czechoslovak National Council (it was established in 1916 in Paris). Its members created the so-called Alarm organization to pass on important messages - a network of telephone operators, cyclists and runners. Secret couriers worked to connect the domestic resistance with the foreign resistance. One of the couriers was the famous opera singer Ema Destinová (Emmy Destinn).

When World War I broke out, Ema Destinová was at the peak of her career. She was invited to the most famous concert halls in Europe and America, and she performed with opera stars of her time.

As a solid patriot and with the ability to travel from one continent to another without fundamental suspicion, she was at the same time an ideal courier for the domestic resistance.

But reconstructing Ema's courier business is not easy. Out of modesty, she hardly spoke of her activities, even in retrospect. Instead, she commented modestly on her work: "Everyone helped, everyone fought - there is no point in talking about it. It was the same as helping a mother, father, child - is the homeland something else, something less?" she was quoted as saying.

However, precisely because Ema modestly kept the details of her cooperation with the MAFFIE to herself until her death, she greatly roused the fantasies of other people. Stories go around that she wrote messages in invisible ink on the silk of her dress or that encrypted messages were hidden in the flower ornaments of her dresses. However, it is more likely that she learned them by heart, similar to many other couriers.

As a reminder of this heroic time, when our independent state was established, and as a reminder of the many well-known, lesser-known and nameless people who contributed to the establishment of our homeland, we present the following task.

The Task

During the search of Ema Destinová's personal effects, many pieces of sheet music were found. Fortunately, none of the police officers knew the music well enough, so the inspection did not find anything this time.

Your task is to decipher the message that Ema was carrying (it is a fictional text). As proof that you have deciphered the message, please state the surname of the other person mentioned in the text:

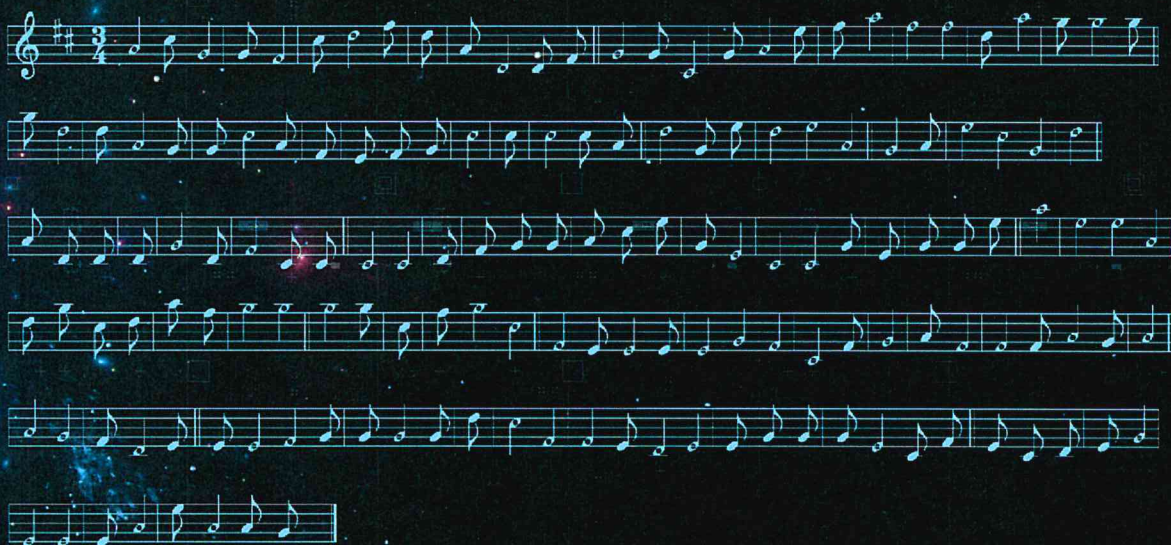
Flute

Wedding March

from *Midsummer Night's Dream*

F. Mendelssohn

Allegro



Quiz solution please fill before September 10th 2021 on web link:

<https://forms.office.com/r/fDAnyqRvfY>

All solutions of the summer quizzes will be published at the time of the European Cyber Security Challenge (ECSC) 28.9-1.10.2021 at www.ecsc2021.cz



The ECSC Challenge

The European Cyber Security Challenge is an initiative of the European Union Agency for Cybersecurity (ENISA). It works with cybersecurity talent across Europe and helps connect them with leading organisations in the field.

Its main objective is to highlight the importance of national competitions and work with young people in the field of cybersecurity.

This year ECSC will take place in Prague between 28. 9. and 1. 10. 2021, and is organised by the AFCEA Czech chapter (as part of the activities of the European Cybersecurity Month). For more information, see www.ecsc2021.cz