

Abstract

The broad subject of this diploma thesis would be the Czechoslovak Secret Police (StB) during the years 1945-1969; and, more narrowly, certain aspects of its organization and activities in relation to the then applicable legislation. The overriding objective, which was reflected in this legislation, was the protection of the Communist political system, the regime. This regime protection goal clearly influenced the evolution and organization of the StB and the related policies on the imprisonment of those individuals that represented a threat to the State and the State System. Similar general principles and policies have basically remained in effect into the current period.

The paper begins with an Introduction and Preface, which take a look at the events and nature of the society in this post-World War II period. This material is derived from an examination of historical source materials.

The remainder of the paper is divided into four additional Chapters with related subsections. The Introduction and Preface focus on the nature and state of the society in the immediate post-war period, which provided the context and background used for the development of the new legislation and the newly created institutions developed for the protection of this new social order and the punishment and incarceration of violators.

The Third Chapter looks at the influence and impact that the secret police (StB) had on the prison system. Specifically, on the legal basis for what was actually taking place in this prison system in support of the activities of the StB.

In the Fourth Chapter, the evolution of the state police (StB) is examined over the subject period in terms of the legislation and laws used to empower it and their impact on the evolution of the institution's organization and organizational structure.

Over this post-war period, the Fifth Chapter takes a look at the impact and effects that this policy focus on the protection of the existing State system, and the impact and effects that the institutions, such as the secret police (StB), which were created to provide this protection, had on society.

In the Sixth Chapter, there is additional information on the various entities, which were involved in the monitoring of the activities of individual members of the society in this post-war period, including those which operated within the secret police (StB).

In the Conclusion, I provide a summary, recap and comparative evaluation of the important facts and resources, which provided the material for the information presented in the thesis. From the analysis of this material, it has been possible to draw up the topical assessments on the selected aspects of the legislation and the organization of the secret police (StB) in the years 1945-1969, as suggested by the title of the thesis.