DEATH CAMP IN TITOITE YUGOSLAVIA

In an article headlined “Goli Otok—a Death Camp”, the Albanian newspaper “Zeri I Poppulit” describes the horrible life in this camp of Yugoslav political prisoners who had opposed the fascist Tito clique.

“The death camps at Dachau, Buchenwald and Oswencim have been eliminated,” reads the article, “but similar camps have been set up at Makronisos, Goli Otok and other places. The Titoites began building a large concentration camp for political prisoners on the island of Goli Otok in the first six months of 1949. Barracks were built there, high walls and a system of barbed wire fences and sentry posts were established.

“In June last year this camp received its first batch of prisoners: Communists and patriots from all parts of the country. Everything was done secretly. Some time later the number of prisoners—sentenced to various terms of imprisonment ranging from 2 to 20 years—was increased to 4,500.

“In this camp”, writes the paper, “forced labour lasts 12 hours a day. No exception is made either for those who suffer from tuberculosis or from injuries received during torture, Titoite sadism in the Goli Otok camp has reached appalling forms. There are concrete cells where prisoners are made to stand for several days on end.

“There are cells filled with water up to the neck of the prisoners; in some cells a hot and cold blast is
introduced alternately until the prisoners lose consciousness. Wide use is made of torture by electricity. When, after two weeks of such torment, the prisoners are at the point of death, they are put into cattle sheds which bear the name of ‘hospitals’, where there are neither doctors nor nurses. The sick have to tend one another without medicines. None of those put in these ‘hospitals’ have ever returned to their fellow prisoners. By the end of October 1949,—after five months—this camp had more than 200 graves.

“Savo Zaric, scientist and outstanding son of the people of Montenegro, perished in this camp. In these camps also languish Zujevic, Hebrang, Ljumovic, Radovan Zogovic, Stanojevic—heroes of the Yugoslav people—and thousands more of the best sons of the people of Yugoslavia.

“The people of Yugoslavia”, writes the newspaper in conclusion—“headed by the Communists who have remained loyal to Marxism-Leninism—are intensifying their resistance. They will destroy the spies and Titoite agents in their country. They will free their country from the Tito-Rankovic gang.”