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KÁDÁR'S HUNGARY – KEKKONEN'S FINLAND

Edited by
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Preface

This volume of the *Hungarologische Beiträge* is the product of two years' co-operation of Hungarian and Finnish historians. It has become customary to publish their work in this series, the preceding one being the HB vol. 7 from the year 1996. Since the position of Hungarian Studies has now stabilized in Jyväskylä University, it is to be expected that we will be publishing more regularly in the future. This can be said also because the 'Kádár-Kekkonen' topic is still very timely and has not by any means been exhausted yet. We set ourselves to work with the conviction that these two statesmen and the conditions in their countries deserve to be studied concomitantly and that their situations under the shadow – dark in Finland, darker in Hungary – of the USSR and in the context of politics of the Cold War and détente resemble each other considerably. Of course, as sociologists use to say, the search for similarities presupposes search for differences.

This volume could not have been brought to daylight without many persons' participation in its preparation. Thanks go to Professor Attila Pók from Budapest who arranged the Hungarian co-operation. In Finland, the work of Phil.Lic. Mari Vares was essential in keeping the contacts to Hungary alive during the initial stages of the editing. David Wilson, MA, has done a great job in polishing our English. Petteri Laihonen, MA, the serial editor for *Hungarologische Beiträge* not only took care of the technical side but also gave valuable advice.

A. H.

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