



CHAPTER TWO

STORIES OF NINE DECADES WHAT HAPPENED 80 YEARS AGO



The streets remained empty.

At the end of September 1938, that is a month before the start of the 15th year of the marathon in Košice, registrations from runners from 16 countries were on the table of the organizers. At the same time, however, the Munich Agreement of world powers was redrawing the borders of Czechoslovakia, and thus fears of the overall development led organizers to the difficult decision not to organize the marathon.

No one wanted to believe it. And although explanatory telegrams went around the world, several runners still came to Košice, getting off trains at the railway station in the faith that the marathon would indeed take place.

Marathon messages and inspiration were omnipresent on 28 October 1938, but the runners did not make it to the streets. Instead, the military of Horthy's Hungary arrived a few days later. A difficult period occurred, which, however, was unable to put out the marathon fire in this city.