

Shepilov's Speech at UN on Hungary

Following are excerpts from the speech by Soviet foreign minister Dmitry Shepilov on Hungary delivered in UN Nov. 19:

Persistent efforts to keep the item on the situation in Hungary on the General Assembly's agenda are in no wise motivated by concern for the interests of the Hungarian people, but rather by the intention in certain quarters, on the one hand, to distract public opinion from the aggressive action by Britain, France and Israel against Egypt and, on the other hand, to encourage the reactionary underground in Hungary by promising it United Nations support.

As to the draft resolution submitted by the delegation of Cuba, it has about it the fetid odor of provocation. The draft makes the slanderous allegation that the "Government of the Soviet Union, in agreement with the authorities of Hungary, is forcibly deporting Hungarian prisoners to Siberia." Even back in the worst periods of the "cold war" one could hardly find another document which violates as glaringly the elementary requirement of substantiating the accusations advanced.

In an effort to make their slanderous allegations appear plausible, the authors of the Cuban draft resolution refer arbitrarily to the mythical "report of the official Budapest radio." A check-up has revealed that no such reports were broadcast by the Budapest radio. As another "source" of information the draft resolution mentions the re-

ports of the "press throughout the world." This in effect is a reference to those publications which, upon orders of the reactionary circles, obediently concoct all sorts of lies regarding the situation in Hungary.

As to the outlandish invention about certain "Hungarian prisoners," including women and children, being deported to Siberia, you all know that it has been categorically denied in Budapest, in particular by the very same Budapest radio to which the Cuban draft makes so bold a reference.

In recent weeks the powerful propaganda machine which is at the disposal of the reactionary forces has been flooding the world with monstrous misinformation concerning the events in Hungary. The organizers of this campaign seek, by deceiving millions of people, to make political capital for themselves and to poison the atmosphere for the USSR.

Thus, for instance, the outrageous lie was launched that in Budapest the Soviet troops had destroyed a children's hospital, killing hundreds of children. This mendacious invention was intensively disseminated by the press throughout the capitalist world.

This slander was taken up and reproduced by many American newspapers.

This malicious campaign of slander about the children's hospital went on for many days and recalled some of Goebbel's most refined tricks. But it was naturally doomed to failure.

On Nov. 13 the American news-

papers had to publish a denial sent out jointly from Budapest through Vienna by the correspondents of The Associated Press, The United Press and Reuters. They reported that a check-up had revealed that the children's hospital was intact and that there were no casualties among 300 or more children in it.

And when the myth about Soviet Army "atrocities" collapsed, a fantastic new lie was launched to the effect that the Soviet Command was deporting from Hungary to Siberia thousands or tens of thousands of Hungarian women and children. This time, too, the slanderers were caught in the act. But what is that to them? They are again engaged in their obnoxious work and are certain to invent some new falsehood tomorrow.

WHAT HAS really occurred in Hungary, according to the information available to the Soviet Union?

The facts show that Hungary's former leadership committed grave mistakes and faults in political matters and in their economic policies. These mistakes and the economic reconstruction have caused justified discontent among a section of the population, which demanded the elimination of these shortcomings and mistakes. These demands were supported by many of Hungary's leading figures.

The action of the masses who on Oct. 23, came out in protest against the grave mistakes and faults of Hungary's former leadership was altogether legitimate. However, the reactionary fascist elements, seeking to undermine and destroy the system of people's democracy, then attempted to make use of this healthy movement for their own ends.

On Oct. 23, when a demonstration took place in Budapest in which many well-intentioned working people took part, the leaders of the counter-revolutionary underground already led out into the streets armed groups which had been formed before-hand. They provoked mass disturbances in Budapest which later grew into a rebellion of anti-popular forces.

To put a speedy end to this rebellion the Hungarian government requested the government of the USSR to have the Soviet military units, stationed in Hungary under the Warsaw Treaty, assist the Hungarian authorities charged with the maintenance of order and tranquility in Budapest.

Even Imre Nagy, who later indulged the reactionary forces by surrendering the positions of the Socialist state, declared on Oct. 25, that the participation of the Soviet troops in the fighting against the counter-revolutionary forces had become "necessary for the sake of the vital interests of our Socialist system."

THE SOVIET UNION could not, of course, turn down a request for help coming from a friendly state. In a few days, however, the government of the USSR, being conscious of the fact that further maintenance of Soviet military units in Budapest may result in a further aggravation of the situation, by agreement with the Hungarian government ordered the withdrawal of its troops from the Hungarian capital.

After the Soviet troops had left Budapest the reactionary forces threw off their disguise and launched a brutal campaign of reprisals against democratically minded people in Hungary, against the honest Hungarian patriots. Those were gloomy days for Hungary. The Fascists hanged honest patriots on Budapest lampposts. They broke into hospitals and shot wounded soldiers. They raided factories, they set fire to theatres and museums.

After the rioters had set the National Museum in Budapest on fire, they shot at the firemen and soldiers who tried to save its treasures. Just as in Hitler's terrible time, bonfires were lit on the streets of Budapest to burn the

bodies of Hungarian patriots, drenched with oil. Near by—again as in Hitler's time—books, the immortal works of progressive writers and thinkers were burned.

The counter-revolutionary forces grew bolder and bolder and they pushed Imre Nagy's Government, which had lost control of the situation, further and further along the path of complicity with the rebels. Former Horthyist and gendarmerie officers became more and more active.

During this period of White terror the counter-revolution revealed its true features to all the people. Well organized armed counter-revolutionary gangs brutally murdered hundreds of workers, peasants, intellectuals, progressive-minded people who fell into their hands.

WHO WERE the immediate organizers of all these crimes? Workers? Peasants? Intellectuals? No, it was the upper crust of the former exploiters. To help them, remnants of the Fascist troops routed in the second world war, who had been given refuge in Western Germany, were moved in from abroad. Thus, according to the Italian press, on the night of Oct. 30, detachments of Hungarian Fascist emigrants, former members of Horthy's army, entered Hungary from Western Germany. They were armed with American weapons. And attempts are now being made to publicize these elements as champions of freedom and democracy.

Imre Nagy's Government not only proved incapable of coping with the upsurge of reaction but, under its pressure, the Government gradually removed from its membership representatives of the nation's democratic forces. Finally, Nagy's Government disintegrated and gave in to the reactionaries who sought to establish a fascist dictatorship in the country. Hungary found herself in a state of chaos.

In this grave situation the part of the working people, which at first did not understand the nature of the developments and succumbed in one way or other to provocative appeals of the instigators of the revolt, began to take a more sober view of things. Popular democratic forces in Hungary began organizing resistance against fascism. Honest statesmen left Nagy's Government being convinced that it constituted only a screen for the fascist reaction which began to gain the upper hand in the country.

The new Government appealed to the Soviet Union for help to repulse the attack by the fascist forces, and to restore order and normal life in the country. The decision faced by the Soviet Government was not an easy one. We clearly saw the difficulties which arise when troops of one country are used on the territory of another. But the Soviet Government could not remain indifferent to the fate of friendly Hungary.

History would have never forgiven the Hungarian working people and the Soviet people, who had made immense sacrifices to liberate Hungary from the fascist yoke, if now, 12 years after the defeat of the Hitlerite hordes in the second world war, the Hungarian and Soviet people had retreated before the counter-revolutionary putschists and accepted the restoration of a hotbed of fascism in the center of Europe.

A victory for reaction in Hungary would have led to her transformation into a new bridgehead for aggressive war not only against the Soviet Union but also against the other countries of Eastern Europe. We are convinced that any democratic government having friendly ties with a neighboring country could not ignore that appeal for help from Hungary.

It is significant, for instance, that last year the U.S. Senate decided to include in The Congressional Record a document containing a comprehensive plan of

subversive action against Socialist states. This plan provided among other things for the training of special cadres "to provide leadership for resistance operations; to engage in propaganda, subversion, infiltration"—in these countries. David Sarnoff, the author of the plan wrote: "We need a network of schools and universities devoted to training cadres for the Cold War. The objective is not education in a generic sense but specific preparation for the intellectual, technical, intelligence and similar requirements of the ideological-psychological war . . . a sort of West Point . . . of political warfare might be established."

It is not fortuitous that since mid-1955 United States ruling circles have greatly intensified their interference in Hungary's internal affairs. Messages by official United States leaders to the Hungarian people, containing appeals to overthrow the legal Government; the adoption by the House of Representatives on April 16, 1956, of a resolution openly calling for the so-called "liberation" of people's democracies; systematic subversive broadcasts of certain Western stations; mass distribution of slanderous leaflets by means of balloon; open support for the Fascist dregs of the Hungarian emigrants; sending of spies and saboteurs to Hungary—it is now clear that all this was designed to support the anti-popular conspiracy which was being prepared by the underground.

You are, doubtlessly, aware of the fact that the subversive activity carried on by the United States of America against East European countries has been legalized by the United States Congress and, moreover, that it has been placed within the framework of official policy.

WHAT IS IT that Hungary is most in need of now? We believe that she needs peace and tranquility, intensive work to organize and develop her economy and the restoration of normal state and public activity.

The Hungarian people are now in need of material aid.

The General Assembly has expressed its views on this subject. The Soviet Union and other Socialist states have already been helping Hungary on a large scale. Suffice it to say that 700 carloads of foodstuffs, building materials and equipment are being sent daily to Hungary across the Soviet-Hungarian border. Many other countries too are known to be helping Hungary.

The Soviet delegation believes that the main task now is not to fan passions about the so-called "Hungarian question" but to make every effort to help restore order, peace and tranquility in that country as soon as possible.

The Soviet troops, by agreement with the government of Hungary, will be withdrawn from Budapest as soon as the situation there is normalized. At the same time the Soviet government will start negotiations with the government of the Hungarian People's Republic as a party to the Warsaw Treaty with regard to the maintenance of Soviet troops on the territory of Hungary.

The Soviet Union is certainly not an advocate of troops being stationed on foreign territories. We agree with Prime Minister [Jawaharlal] Nehru [of India] who recently again voiced his opposition to war pacts both in Asia and in Europe to the stationing of troops in foreign countries and to permitting the maintenance of military bases on foreign territories. A comprehensive and effective program of reduction of armed forces of complete liquidation within an established time limit of all air and naval bases on foreign territories and of subsequent general disarmament has been put forth on Nov. 17 in the statement of the Soviet government on disarmament and the lessening of international tension.

Dag Criticizes Invaders' Delay In Quitting Egypt

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., Nov. 21—Secretary-General Dag Hammarskjold said today the UN police force in Egypt had been unable to take its full duties because Britain, France and Israeli forces still are on Egyptian soil.

He reported also that he is negotiating with private firms to clear the blocked Suez Canal in conformity with Egypt's request for UN assistance.

In a report circulated to the General Assembly, Hammarskjold said Egypt had agreed to work out a basis for the maintenance of the emergency unit—now comprising 4,479 men from eight countries.

But, he said, "the initial activities of the force are determined by the fact that, as yet, no withdrawals have taken place" in compliance with the cease-fire-and-withdrawal demand approved two weeks ago by a 64-0 vote, with 12 abstentions, in the Assembly.

He asked the Assembly for approval of his secret talks with the Egyptian Government in Cairo. The Assembly is expected to act tomorrow.

LONDON, Nov. 21.—The first token group of United Nations police troops entered Port Said today. The company of 216 Norwegians were greeted with hostility by Egyptian demonstrators.

DAMASCUS, Nov. 21.—Syria charged Israel today with massing troops along its Syrian-Jordan borders and asked the UN to investigate. The charge was made in a note to the UN by Syrian Foreign Minister Salem Bitar.

Polio Epidemic in Budapest Reported

VIENNA, Nov. 21—A polio epidemic has broken out in Budapest, the Budapest Radio announced today. The radio said the epidemic had also hit Debrecen, the nation's third-largest city. It also reported Budapest was threatened by a spreading epidemic of amoebic jaundice from polluted war or vegetable.

The situation is even more critical because of a shortage of soap and detergents, the radio said.

Budapest Radio said the health of babies and small children is threatened by a shortage of fresh milk.

The public health situation generally in Budapest is "unsatisfactory," it said, and several of the largest hospitals suffered serious damage in the fighting.

The Rochus hospital, the second

surgical clinic, the second women's clinic, the second clinic for skin and venereal disease and the Institute for Nervous Diseases, the broadcast said, had to be housed in other buildings until damaged buildings are reconstructed.

The broadcast said many schools in the capital could not be reopened because of damages suffered in the fighting, or because of the shortage of fuel. It added it was hoped most would be able to open by Jan. 1.

The Communist newspaper Nep

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