

H U N G A R Y

May 29, 1957

REDUCTION OF U.S. LEGATION TEMPORARY

(Text)

Budapest, in Hungarian to Hungarians in West Europe, May 28, 1957, 1900 GMT--L

(Anonymous Commentary)

(Text)

What has made it necessary for the Hungarian Government to ask the United States to reduce the staff of its Legation in Budapest? The answer to this question is quite unambiguous: the attitude of the U.S. Legation in Budapest. It may be recalled that a few months ago the Hungarian Government was compelled to ask for the recall of Edward Wailles, the U.S. Minister to Budapest, who had failed to present his credentials to the competent Hungarian authorities. Another member of the U.S. Legation, Captain Gleason, an assistant military attache, had to be expelled from Hungary for having abused his diplomatic immunity to carry out open espionage activities in the country.

The U.S. Legation, contrary to diplomatic usage, has abstained from attending any of the ceremonies that were being held in Hungary, even when they concerned the sons of the American people. Among other things, for instance, the U.S. Legation failed to send its representatives to the wreath-laying ceremony at the graves of the American heroes who laid down their lives for the liberation of Hungary. Nor has the U.S. Legation been represented at the commemoration of the 150th anniversary of the birth of the great American poet, Longfellow.

From all this it follows that the U.S. Legation is not carrying out customary diplomatic activities, while, at the same time, the size of the Legation staff is extremely high: at present, 21 diplomats are serving at the U.S. Legation. It is worth comparing this with the fact that while Miklos Horthy was regent, there were only 6 diplomats at the U.S. Legation in Budapest.

The Hungarian Government note points out that this measure is considered to be merely a temporary one and that if the U.S. Legation is willing to alter its unfriendly, or we may even say without exaggeration hostile, attitude and is ready to resume normal diplomatic activities, the Hungarian Government will be disposed to repeal this temporary measure.

HUNGARY
May 29, 1957

TROOP TALKS END; GROMYKO, ZHUKOV LEAVE

Budapest, Hungarian Home Service, May 28, 1957, 1100 GMT--L

(Text)

The Soviet Government delegation, led by Foreign Minister Gromyko, which came to Hungary to negotiate and to conclude an agreement on the legal status of Soviet troops, temporarily stationed in Hungary, left Budapest this morning.

The members of the delegation were seen off at Ferihegy airport by Imre Horvath, Foreign Minister; Lt. Gen. Geza Revesz, Minister of Defense; Ferenc Munnich, First Deputy Chairman of the government; Gyorgy Marosan, Minister of State; Sandor Ronai, Speaker of the National Assembly; Bela Biszku, Minister of the Interior; Karoly Csatorday, head of the Foreign Ministry protocol department; leading officials of the foreign and defense ministries, several members of the generals corps; Gromov, USSR Ambassador; the members of the Soviet Embassy and several heads and military attaches of the Budapest diplomatic missions. Representatives of the workers of Budapest were also at the airport, and gave a bunch of flowers to Gromyko.

Home Service Comment

Budapest, Hungarian Home Service, May 28, 1957, 1900 GMT--L

(Text)

In an earlier transmission we gave the text of the agreement regulating the status of Soviet troops stationed in Hungary. During the October-November counterrevolutionary events the question of Soviet troops in Hungary was presented to the Hungarian public in an incorrect, criminal, national and chauvinist light, as a result--which is indisputable today--of the systematic work of hostile circles, with a view to attempting to line up the Hungarian people against the very Soviet Union and the very Soviet Army to which our nation owes its freedom. This shrewd and base plan failed. The counter-revolution was smashed with the help of the Soviet armed forces and we have launched a planned and purposeful fight against its ideological influence.

The agreement now signed, and which we can justly call a historic document, clears the air in this respect as well. In its preamble, the agreement refers to the present international situation, to the existence of NATO and to German rearmament which seriously endangers the safety of the socialist states including Hungary. Under such circumstances, it is the vital interest of Hungary and the Hungarians to secure their effective defense in face of all possible attempts at aggression. The temporary stay of Soviet troops in Hungary is serving this end.

HUNGARY
May 29, 1957

The Soviet-Hungarian agreement, like all agreements among socialist countries, is of a defensive character and serves the cause of world peace and the security of nations. It does not threaten the interests of any country and truly corresponds to the aims and desires of every peace-loving man. Nevertheless the agreement, serving common aims, undoubtedly serves primarily the defense and security of the Hungarian people's peaceful creative work in the spirit of unshakable internationalist principles linking the countries of the socialist camp together.

We referred to the preamble of the agreement. The ensuing 19 articles regulate in detail all the legal aspects of the Soviet troops stationed temporarily in Hungary, and they do so in a manner of guaranteeing and confirming in every respect Hungary's sovereignty. The importance of the agreement is further underlined by the fact that the Foreign Minister and the Minister of Defense of the world's leading great power--the Soviet Union--came to Hungary to conclude it. This is a sign of appreciation of Hungary and the Hungarian people and a proof of Hungary's equality just as is every word and the whole spirit of the agreement.

MISKOLC PLOTTERS' SENTENCES LIGHTENED

Budapest, Hungarian Home Service, May 29, 1957, 0900 GMT--L

(From the Press Review)

(Text)

NEPAKARAT Reports that the Supreme Court, as a court of appeal, reduced the sentences passed by the Miskolc county court on Dr. Istvan Szombathy and his six fellow-accused for conspiring against the state. The Supreme Court commuted the death sentence of Dr. Istvan Szombathy to 13 years imprisonment and that of Gyorgy (Gertaj?) to 11 years. Both were sentenced to loss of civic rights for 10 years and to total confiscation of property. The prison sentences of Lajos Veres was reduced from 12 to 7 years; of Gyorgy Meszaros from 10 to 8 years.