

Budapest, Hungarian Home Service, Dec. 19, 1957, 1300 GMT--L

(Sound Pictures from Today's meeting of the National Assembly--live speech by Sándor Ronai)

(Text) Sándor Ronai, Speaker of the National Assembly: Honorable National Assembly. I greet my fellow members of the National Assembly. I hereby open the session of the National Assembly convened by the Presidential Council of the People's Republic in accordance with paragraph 12, clause 2 of the constitution.

Announcer: We are going to give excerpts from the opening speech of Sándor Ronai.

Ronai: The unanimous expression of confidence toward our party and government shown by the May and June sessions of our National Assembly sprang from the measures applied. Since then, as a result of the further consolidation achieved, the confidence of the working people in our party and government has increased and has found expression in many forms. The results obtained in industrial and agricultural production; the enthusiastic mass meetings on the anniversary of our constitution; the further consolidation and development of the agricultural producers cooperatives; the favorable development of the bulk buying of cereals; the deliberations and resolutions of (one word indistinct); the virtually unanimous return of people's front candidates at council byelections--all this serves to testify that the people approve and agree with the policy of our party and government.

This concord has enabled us to attain more and more results in the restoration of legal order and the consolidation of our state life. In the name of the National Assembly I express my thanks to our glorious working class, our working peasantry, and our intelligentsia for having cooperated in the achievement of our results.

Honorable National Assembly. Our session has been convened at a time when the questions of war, peace, and coexistence constitute the fundamental problems of our epoch. The aggressive circles of the leading Western imperialist powers have made renewed efforts to intensify the cold war and they continue their efforts aimed at the subjugation of people, their bellicose efforts against the forces of peace and socialism.

In the course of the festivities staged in commemoration of the 40th anniversary of the great socialist revolution we could note with pleasure that along with the USSR's success, the forces of social progress and the forces of the peace camp are growing throughout the world. Despite the tremendous economic and technical scientific results which it has achieved, the Soviet Union continues to pursue its peace policy.

On the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the Great Socialist October Revolution, the Supreme Soviet of the USSR addressed an appeal to the workers of the world, to politicians and public personalities, to exponents of science and culture, and to the parliaments and governments of all countries for the sake of the defense and assurance of peace. I propose to the honorable National Assembly that we debate this appeal and define our stand on this question, which fundamentally affects the shaping of the fate of our working people, the future of the whole world.