

6 January 1958

NEWS ITEMS RELATING TO HUNGARY

1. United Nations:

Statement of witnesses in Switzerland about the list of witnesses  
before the Special Committee (Associated Press)

Zurich, Switzerland, Jan. 4 - A group of Hungarians who testified secretly before a U.N. Committee on Hungary last summer asked today that a list bearing their names be destroyed. They wrote U.N. Secretary-General Dag Hammarskjöld that their lives would be endangered if the list fell into the hands of what they called Soviet spies in the U.N. Secretariat. The list is held by a former Committee official, Poul Bang-Jensen of Denmark. He has been suspended by Hammarskjöld for refusing to turn the list over to the United Nations for safe keeping. Appealing to Hammarskjöld to permit Bang-Jensen to destroy the list, the Hungarians wrote:

"If you declare you do not want to see the list of names, your reputation will not have suffered. On the contrary, no one could imagine that you have any secret connection with the Soviets."

Testimony of the Hungarians was used in the U.N. Report condemning the Russians for suppressing the Hungarian revolt in 1956. 1/

British endorsement of the ICFTU resolution on Hungary

The Foreign Secretary of Great Britain has endorsed the resolution on Hungary of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions passed at its last Congress in Tunis. In this resolution the Congress heartily commended the United Nations Special Committee on Hungary for its report on the Soviet Government's savage suppression of the Hungarian democratic revolution, condemned the Soviet aggression, appealed to all its affiliates to aid the Hungarian refugees and urged the United Nations to demand the Soviet Government and the authorities it had imposed on the Hungarian people to end the persecution of Hungarian trade unionists, intellectuals and other heroic freedom fighters, to withdraw all the forces of occupation in Hungary and to permit the Hungarian people to establish a sovereign Government of their own free choice. (ICFTU Information Bulletin, Vol. VIII, 15 Dec. 1957, No. 29, p. 177.)

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1/ A dispatch of similar contents was carried by Reuters with Bern, January 4 dateline.



## 2. Foreign Affairs

### Soviet Union announces cut of its forces stationing in Hungary

All wire agencies reported on 6 January from Moscow that the USSR cut its armed forces with 300,000 and will withdraw 41,000 from Eastern Germany and 17,000 from Hungary "as a major contribution to the relaxation of international tension."

### Kadar Government released an employee of U.S. Legation (Associated Press)

Budapest, Hungary, Jan. 4 - Communist Hungary has released one Hungarian employee of the U.S. Legation here but still is holding two others arrested several weeks ago, it was learned today. Detention of the U.S. Legation employees had not been publicized before. The British Government announced in October that the Communist regime police had arrested two more British Legation employees of Hungarian nationality, bringing the number of detained British-employed nationals to five. The U.S. employee freed was identified as Jozsef Herceg, a veteran translator more than 70 years old, who was arrested more than two months ago. There was no information what charge had been lodged against him or any of the others.

## 3. Refugees

### Escape from Brazil to England (United Press)

London, 6 Jan. - Eleven Hungarian stowaways, including three families, were landed here yesterday from the British liner highland monarch after a trip from Rio de Janeiro. The Hungarians who complained they could not find work in Brazil, said they would go anywhere in Europe but Hungary. They were discovered aboard the highland monarch one day after the ship had left Rio de Janeiro.