

Vienna, 22 December 1957

NEW IMPETUS FOR THE STALINISTS IN HUNGARY

The Chief Public Prosecutor in Hungary, GEZA SZENASI, stated in a speech in the Parliament that the persecution of the guilty in the "counter-revolution" is far from concluded, and that the People's Courts will be working for years until all who have murdered, or committed other crimes, will meet with their just punishment.

In this connexion, on another occasion, it was stated in Parliament that the preliminary investigation of the Maleter-case is still under way. SZENASI also said in his statement that the so-called "small offenders" will receive mild punishments. A great part of the proceedings against those offenders have finished already. He said that there are still concentration camps in Hungary with 1869 inmates. At the end of his speech, SZENASI stated that juvenile delinquency has grown dangerously. Especially political crimes among the so-called "class-alien" elements of the youth had grown by 100 per cent.

The Minister of Interior, BELA BISZKU, stated before the Parliament that the Government will probably be forced to curtail again the right of residence in the City of Budapest. Since the repeal of the respective order concerning residence in the City more than 200,000 persons moved to Budapest and the population has now reached nearly the 2 million mark. In order to stop overpopulation of the Capital, the Minister of Interior said that administrative measures will have to be taken to check the influx and to prevent that persons should take up residence in Budapest whose presence is not needed in the City. As it is known, in 1951 the RAKOSI régime enacted a law on the basis of which 70,000 so-called "enemies of the people" were banned from Budapest and were sent forcefully to the country. There are already rumours in circulation in Budapest that groups consisting of older people will be transferred on a "voluntary" basis to the Northern part of Hungary.

Many observers think that the strengthening of the political course in Hungary, which is evident from different measures and new trials, is a result of the growing influence of Stalinist elements who since the Moscow meeting have gained new impetus. Into the same category of such measures belongs the new bill concerning the so-called "People's Control Commissions" which "NEPSZABADSAG" calls as "weapons against bureaucracy and for democracy" but in reality these Commissions will serve only for sharpening the control of the Party and legalise the spying of the AVH.

That the regime is still confronted with resistance and refusal by all strata of the population can be best seen by a statement of the President of the Supreme Court about conditions in the administration of justice. The top ranking Communist judge in Hungary had to admit in his speech in Parliament that half of the judges in Hungary were dismissed because they refused to sit in People's Courts and to sentence "counter-revolutionaries".