

## Foreign Ministry Statement on Syria

### October Events, Suez and the Eisenhower Doctrine

The home service broadcast the following statement by the Hungarian Foreign Ministry (headings added): "The leading imperialist Powers, and the USA in the first place, have lately been organising and trying to unleash new acts of aggression. Less than a year ago they fomented an armed rising in Hungary and at the same time tried to subdue the Egyptian people with the 'triple aggression'. These attempts ended in

humiliating failure but the imperialists failed to learn the lesson of their defeats. In January 1957 the US Government proclaimed the so-called Eisenhower doctrine which, starting from the untrue premise of a vacuum, attempted by undisguised US intervention to force the Arab countries and the Arab peoples, who have attained their freedom, to submit to the imperialist yoke again.

"US aggressive circles thought that they could take the place of the British and French colonisers who entirely lost their prestige in the eyes of the Arab nations as a result of the Suez adventure. They therefore entered on the scene so as to crush the independent Arab nations. They wanted to divide the Arab world with mendacious slanders about the alleged Soviet danger. They wanted to deter certain Arab countries from pursuing an independent policy. Most Arab countries soon discovered the 'benevolent' US imperialists' unambiguous intentions and the Eisenhower doctrine was widely rejected.

### The "Campaign" against Syria: Arab Solidarity

"Their heads turned by their transitory success in some Arab countries, the imperialists believed that they could put politicians into power in Syria who suited their policy and sympathised with the colonisers. But the imperialists again mistook their wishes for reality. Neither conspiracy, nor the open threats of the US Sixth Fleet in the Mediterranean, nor the open provocation of Turkey's NATO army could alter the determined intention of the Syrian Government and people to defend their country's independence and to follow the road they have chosen.

"Syria's resistance merely caused the trouble-makers to redouble their angry efforts. The imperialists moved two of their loyal Middle East followers - Turkey and Israel - into the foreground. They assigned a particularly important role to Turkey in the campaign against Syria. In accordance with the wishes of the imperialists, Turkey is trying to make a war possible by staging menacing army manoeuvres and frontier incidents. According to reliable information, the attack was to take place in the next few days.

"But the Syrian people are not alone in the defence of their country and independence. The Arab countries are on their side, and particularly Egypt which, loyally fulfilling her fraternal obligations, has sent troops to help the threatened sister nation. The other Arab States have also declared their solidarity with Syria. Now that Syria's complaint has been placed on the UN General Assembly's agenda, we expect the UN to pronounce itself for facts and for justice, in contrast to the recent debate on the so-called Hungarian question. The US, Turkish and Israel trouble-makers are mistaken if they think they can prevent a rally of the peace-loving forces.

### Hungarian Support for Syria

"As a result of these provocations, the situation in the Middle East has become extremely tense. In the case of Syria, it can be categorically stated that as a result of Mr. Dulles's notorious policy of dancing on the brink of the abyss - of his base, cynical and adventurous policy which cannot be condemned strongly enough - the peace of the Middle East is directly threatened. Should war break out in the Middle East, there is no guarantee that it would not spread beyond the frontiers of the countries originally involved. The Hungarian people, who have suffered so much as a result of imperialist provocation, are following the determined struggle of the Arab nations, and of the Syrian people in the first place, for the freedom and independence of their countries, with great sympathy and understanding. We assure the Syrian people of the full solidarity of the Hungarian people, who indignantly and deeply condemn the aggressions of the imperialists. We are convinced that the struggle will end in the triumph of justice, which is on the side of the Arab nations. Our people are convinced that despite the provocations, peace can be defended and that this latest imperialist aggression will also end in the complete failure of the aggressive forces." (Budapest 17.00, 19.10.57)