

SEPT 61

INFO SMITH BURKS/ COLLINS

ENDRST

FOLLOWING BACKGROUND INFORMATION COMES FROM ABSOLUTELY  
RELIABLE SOURCES OF THE US DELEGATION TO THE UN, AND UN  
INFORMANTS VERY CLOSE TO THE SPECIAL UN REPRESENTATIVE ON  
HUNGARY, SIR LESLIE MUNRO OF NEW ZEALAND. UNFORESEEN EVENTS MAY  
CHANGE THE PRESENT STATUS OF THE HUNGARIAN QUESTION IN THE UN.  
IF NOT, HOWEVER, THIS INFORMATION MAY PROVE TO BE A USEFUL  
INDICATOR OF THE COMING TREND IN THIS QUESTION WHICH EDITORS  
MIGHT LIKE TO CONSIDER IN WRITING ABOUT IT.

AS INDICATED IN RFE SPECIAL A2 OF SEPT 6 (HUNGARY AND TIBET  
IN THE UN), THE UNITED STATES HAS NOT YET INSCRIBED THE  
HUNGARIAN QUESTION ON THE PROVISIONAL UN AGENDA FOR THE  
16TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY SCHEDULED TO OPEN ON SEPT 19. AN  
EVENTUAL DEBATE ON THE QUESTION WILL ALMOST CERTAINLY BE  
SECURED BUT THE FACT REMAINS THAT THERE IS NO ENTHUSIASM IN  
THE ASSEMBLY TO DISCUSS HUNGARY. UNITED STATES IS REPORTEDLY  
UNDER STRONG PRESSURE FROM GREAT BRITAIN AND OTHER ALLIES,  
SAYING NOTHING OF AFRO-ASIAN NEUTRALISTS, TO FIND "SOME  
KIND OF ACCOMODATION" IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT NOBODY HERE  
BELIEVES THAT PILING UP MORE ANTI-SOVIET RESOLUTIONS WOULD  
CHANGE THE PICTURE IN HUNGARY ONE BIT.

AS A RESULT OF THESE PRESSURES, AND IN THE HOPE THAT A NEW  
FORMULA OR APPROACH MIGHT BE MORE EFFECTIVE, THE UNITED  
STATES WAS RELIABLY REPORTED SEVERAL MONTHS AGO AS TRYING  
TO USE THE GOOD OFFICE OF FREDERICK H. BOLAND OF IRELAND  
WHO HAS BEEN PRESIDENT OF THE 15TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY. THE  
PLAN WAS FOR HIM TO GO TO HUNGARY AND SEEK CONCESSIONS  
AND ASSURANCES FROM THE BUDAPEST AND SOVIET AUTHORITIES IN  
THE REALM OF HUMAN RIGHTS CONCERNING MOSTLY THE VICTIMS  
OF THE 1956 UPRISING. MR. BOLAND WAS WILLING TO GO AND HIS  
GOVERNMENT HAD GIVEN ITS BLESSINGS FOR SUCH A MISSION.  
IT IS NOT KNOWN WHETHER THE COMMUNISTS HAD BEEN APPROACHED  
IN ADVANCE

AND IF SO, WHETHER THEY AGREED TO NEGOTIATE WITH BOLAND. BUT THE FACT IS THAT THE PLAN NEVER REACHED THE POINT OF ACTUAL NEGOTIATIONS BECAUSE SIR LESLIE MUNRO REJECTED THIS FORMULA. THE GOVERNMENT IN DUBLIN HAD STIPULATED THAT MR. BOLAND MAY UNDERTAKE SUCH A MISSION ONLY IF SIR LESLIE APPROVES OF IT.

SIR LESLIE IS UNDERSTOOD TO HAVE FELT THAT THIS APPROACH WOULD HAVE BEEN "OUTRIGHT APPEASEMENT." HE IS NOW IN NEW YORK PREPARING ANOTHER OF HIS ANNUAL "PROGRESS" REPORTS ON HUNGARY AS STIPULATED IN ONE OF THE DOZEN UN RESOLUTIONS ON THIS QUESTION.

AS A RESULT OF HIS OPPOSITION, HOWEVER, HE HAS REPORTEDLY CAUSED INCREASED ANIMOSITY FROM AMONG HIGH UN OFFICIALS AND MANY UN DIPLOMATS WHO HAD HOPED TO FIND A "GRACEFUL" WAY OF LIQUIDATING THIS "STATIC" QUESTION. SOURCES CLOSE TO SIR LESLIE'S OFFICE HERE CLAIM THAT HIS ADVERSARIES TRY TO "PENSION" HIM OUT OF THE UN. HIS ROLE OF THE ASSEMBLY'S SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE ON HUNGARY IS HIS ONLY REMAINING CONNECTION WITH THE WORLD ORGANIZATION OF WHICH HE WAS FOR MANY YEARS HIS COUNTRY'S AMBASSADOR HERE AND IN 1957 PRESIDENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY. HE IS NOW SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE INTERNATIONAL JURIST COMMISSION IN GENEVA BUT MAKES FREQUENT TRIPS TO THE UN. HE TOLD RFE LAST WEEK THAT HE WOULD RETURN TO NEW YORK IN NOVEMBER AND STAY TILL THE END OF THE ASSEMBLY DEBATE LATE IN DECEMBER WHEN THE QUESTION OF HUNGARY IS MOST LIKELY TO COME UP.

SOURCES CLOSE TO SIR LESLIE ALSO POINTED OUT THAT THE HUNGARIAN QUESTION IN THE UN MIGHT BE AFFECTED BY THE CURRENT TALKS, THROUGH DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS IN WASHINGTON AND BUDAPEST, IN AN EFFORT TO "REGULARIZE" DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS BETWEEN THE US AND HUNGARY. THE PURPOSE OF THESE TALKS IS TO EXPLORE THE POSSIBILITY OF RESTORING BOTH COUNTRIES' DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS TO EMBASSY STATUS FROM THE PRESENT CHARGE D'AFFAIRS REPRESENTATION. IT IS FELT IN CIRCLES CLOSE TO SIR LESLIE THAT THE BUDAPEST REGIME WOULD NATURALLY INSIST THAT AS PART OF THIS "REGULARIZATION" THE US SHOULD STOP BRINGING UP THE QUESTION OF THE 1956 HUNGARIAN UPRISING IN THE UN.

END MSG