

H U N G A R Y

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ACTIVISTS HONOR AUSTRIAN CP DELEGATION

Budapest, MFI, in French Hellschreiber to Europe, Oct. 23, 1957, 2200 GMT-

(Text) On Wednesday afternoon a meeting of Hungarian Socialist Workers Party activists was held in the Budapest Sports Hall in honor of the Austrian Communist Party delegation. Those sitting on the presidential dais included Janos Kadar, first secretary of the Central Committee; Lajos Feher, Gyula Kallai, Karoly Kiss, Gyorgy Marosan, Ferenc Munnich, Sandor Ronai, and Miklos Somogyi, members of the Politburo, as well as members of the Austrian delegation.

Franz Honner, member of the Politburo of the Austrian Communist Party and leader of the Austrian delegation, spoke first. He started by emphasizing the affinity of views established during the current talks between the delegates of the two parties regarding the political and economic situation of the two countries, the great international political problems of today and the tasks facing the two parties.

Franz Honner then congratulated Hungarian communists on their achievements since the tragic events of last October. He explained that last October the Austrian communists had been very quick in recognizing the counterrevolutionary character of events in Hungary and the danger which they represented not only for Hungary itself but for European peace and world peace. Honner recalled that after the formation of the Kadar cabinet the partisans of the counterrevolution and the enemies of socialism had hoped that the new government of the people's democracy would be unable to obtain the support of the large masses. Now, he said, thanks to the impressions which we have gained, we are able to say that the government and all the local organs enjoy the confidence and active support of the population.

Franz Honner pointed further to the old ties existing between the Austrian and Hungarian workers movements and indicated also the affinity of interest of the two countries faced with the reemergence of German militarism. The policy of aggression pursued by the Bonn government found manifestation (in the rupture of diplomatic relations?) with Yugoslavia and constitutes a grave menace to the independence and freedom of Austria as well as Hungary, he said. He pointed out that the Austrian communists are partisans of absolute neutrality as far as their country is concerned, and added that to permit cold war activity against a neighboring country is contrary to the spirit of neutrality.



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Franz Honner expressed satisfaction over several recent measures taken by the Austrian Government against certain Hungarian fascist bodies. He particularly stressed the need to fight for the repatriation of Hungarian children who fled to Austria without their parents. Further, Franz Honner welcomed the various Soviet proposals on disarmament and the banning of nuclear weapons, and ended his speech by paying tribute to the Hungarian martyrs of the defense of socialism, and by hailing the strengthening of proletarian (friendship?) between the two parties.

Marosan Speech

Budapest, Hungarian Home Service, Oct. 23, 1957, 1930 GMT--L

(Recorded speech by Gyorgy Marosan, Minister of State, at mass meeting held in honor of the Austrian Communist Party delegation)

(Text) Marosan (at the microphone): Our dear guests, honorable mass meeting, we report to the communists and workers of Budapest, and also to the world at large that today work went on in the factories and offices, and studies continued at the universities. (Stormy applause)

The delegation of the Austrian Communist Party came to Hungary on the invitation of our party to conduct negotiations with a delegation of the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party. I should like to mention here the many exchange visits made by our party and government delegations which have this year visited several countries, conducting talks with the delegates of sister parties and governments. We have also been honored by being able to receive the representatives of many sister parties and friendly governments here in Hungary.

There were among our visitors communists and anticommunists alike, people who in many respects do not see eye to eye with communists. These visitors and delegations were given the opportunity of meeting and talking freely to various working Hungarian people, to workers, peasants and intellectuals. These encounters convinced them that contrary to the horror stories and slanders of the hostile Western radio stations and press, life and production in Hungary continued in normal channels.

(Applause) Our visitors were convinced by irrefutable evidence that a year ago Hungary had been the scene of a counterrevolutionary uprising, an armed rising that was aimed at the overthrow of the people's power and the ousting of Marxist ideology. On the basis of their meetings and conversations with Hungarian workers our visitors have drawn the conclusion, as in the reports of the Scottish miners' delegation and of the Danish trade union delegation, that the overwhelming majority of the Hungarian working people are rallied behind the party and government and that, joining forces with their party and government, they work unitedly to develop the country's economic, social, political, and cultural life. (Applause)



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Our working people are building socialism in our country with ever greater achievements and fruitful work. All these visits have contributed to the fact that Hungary and the Hungarian people have never before had such comprehensive and cordial relations with the peoples and progressive-minded parties as they now have. The unparalleledly courageous and sincere attitude displayed in the last year by our friends and loyal comrades in arms, the large-scale support they rendered to the Hungarian people have strengthened and deepened in Hungarian workers the ideals and absolute necessity of solidarity of the international proletariat. (Applause)

Our country is linked by comradely relations, far surpassing any that existed before, with our eternal friends, the powerful Soviet Union. (Applause) Similar relations exist and flourish between that vast country which is building socialism, the Chinese People's Republic, and Hungary. (Applause) Our country is linked by unbreakable ties, well tested in the hour of trouble, with the people's democracies of Europe and Asia. (Applause)

#### Yugoslav Relations

Our friendly relationship to Yugoslavia, which is building socialism, is in the process of clarification and improvement. (Applause)

The Hungarian people are following with fraternal sympathy the historic struggle conducted by the party and government of the Polish working class and people, who are building communism, against imperialist agents and against attempts to reimport an imperialist-bourgeois ideology to their country. (Applause)

The relations of our party and people have been strengthened and deepened with those sister parties which are functioning in the capitalist countries. This process has (improved?) friendly relations with the French and Italian workers and progressive circles. (Applause)

We are now in a position to welcome to our country a delegation of the Austrian sister party. (Applause) Let me take this opportunity to express gratitude, on behalf of the Hungarian people, through the representatives of the Austrian Communist Party, for the most valuable political and moral aid that we have received from the Austrian workers, the Austrian people, and especially from the Austrian Communist Party and its paper. (Applause)

We attach extremely great importance to the discussions between the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party and the Austrian Communist Party for two reasons: the first is that Austria and Hungary are neighbors and the second is that the development of Hungarian-Austrian relations constitutes an extremely important factor for the peace of the whole of Europe.



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Our discussions are pervaded by the intention of seeing unmistakable neighborly relations develop between the two countries and the two states. The necessity of good relations is primarily substantiated by the fact that the countries border on each other. Beyond that consideration, however, for many long decades we have been linked by good relations with the Austrian labor movement on the front of international labor movements.

It is a well-known fact that the idea of socialism was brought to Hungary many years ago by Austrian artisans and migratory workers and that our own Hungarian labor movement progressed parallel with the development of the Austrian socialist movement. It is an historic fact that, in the first decades of the Hungarian labor movement, our workers turned to the Austrian labor movement for political guidance and direction. This is shown by the valuable and noble traditions of the years preceding World War I.

After the First World War, the Austrian working class and the Austrian labor movement protected a great many persecuted socialists and communists from white terror, from the persecution and slaughter of Horthy fascism. (Applause)

These old relations and the splendid traditions by which we are linked are defended, guarded, and developed by the Austrian Communist Party. (Applause)

The labor movements of the two countries must never lose sight of the fact that the 1919 triumph of Hungarian white terror subsequently drove the Austrian labor movement and the democratic life of Austria into catastrophe. It was not only we who had to learn, amid the horrors of white terror and fascism, how necessary fraternal solidarity and proletarian unity is. The Austrian labor movement and the Austrian people, who were so cruelly trampled by arms in 1934, just as the (people's power?) was crushed in 1919 by the fascists, with the participation of the imperialists, also had to learn this lesson.

Our thoughts always go out with affection and respect to the Austrian workers, to those comrades who fought in the vanguard against Austrian and German fascism. In 1934 and subsequent years, we Hungarians felt directly that the defeat of the Austrian working class and the banning of the Austrian labor movement greatly encouraged Horthy's fascism to deal even more ruthlessly with the fighters of the Hungarian working class and to oppress the working Hungarian people even more relentlessly.



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Comrades, it is absolutely necessary that such a relationship between the events of 1919 and 1934 and our common memories should link the Austrian and Hungarian labor movements even more closely. These memories have warned the leaders of the working class that one cannot flirt with fascism with impunity. The European working class movement has already covered this road. It has proved where such flirtation leads.

Fascists have not discriminated and do not discriminate between communists and social democrats. On this question, fascism cannot be trifled with. It carries out its own work.

It must never happen again that, as a result of such faults and crimes, the representatives of the working class of any country, either communists or social democrats, should meet in the concentration camps and jails of the fascists, as happened in the past.

History, which is the great teacher of life, warns us that the political and organizational unity of the working class is the only, the most secure safeguard of the people, an invincible barrier to the furthering of any fascist aspirations. This unity is the safest condition for the realization of socialism. This historic lesson is obligatory for all of us.

These realizations give inspiration to the Austrian and Hungarian delegations at their current meeting. We want these talks to strengthen further the idea of proletarian internationalism and its practice and we want them to contribute not only to the improvement and strengthening of the relations between the two peoples and the two states under the sign of peaceful coexistence, but also to their further development.

We must say openly and with regret that relations between the two states recently, due to reasons beyond the control of the Hungarian Government, have grown weaker and even deteriorated. We hold the view that conditions prevail for building up and developing constructive relations benefitting good neighbors, especially in view of the fact that Austria, in 1955, pledged herself to eternal neutrality.

We regarded the Austrian declaration of neutrality as of exceptional importance at the time and still regard it as such; we welcomed it with joy. However, we were filled with anxiety when, from various facts, we concluded that activities were being carried on to strengthen certain foreign imperialist circles and certain Austrian internal forces seeking to undermine the fundamental principles of Austrian neutrality. We are of the opinion that such activity hinders the realization of a voluntary policy of neutrality.



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We are convinced that relations between the two states would improve and develop if both official and nonofficial circles in Austria once and for all would take cognizance of the historic fact that in Hungary there is a people's democratic regime; that in this country the power of workers and peasants--which came into being as a result of the people's will, as a result of the people's struggles and in the people's interest--is an actual fact; if they were to take cognizance of the fact that we, here in Hungary, are building socialism. (Applause)

This worker-peasant power, our socialist constructive work, never possessed nor will it ever possess any organ directed against the interests of the Austrian people. In Austria the social and economic structure is different from Hungary's. In Austria there is a capitalist system. However, we profess Leninist ideas and maintain that this cannot constitute an obstacle in the way of good relations between the two countries and their constant development. We stand on the basis of the principle of peaceful coexistence, and this, in our opinion, affords every possibility for the development of constructive, neighborly relations in the interest of both peoples.

We would like the Austrian Government, too, to accept the principle of peaceful coexistence and draw the conclusions arising from it. We maintain that, for our part, we have already drawn these conclusions. The Hungarian People's Republic, in spite of the difference of the two social systems, has been striving and continues to strive for the establishment of neighborly relations with Austria in the various branches of international relations.

What do we expect? In our opinion, what lessons should be drawn and applied in practice by the Austrian Government on the basis of the principle of peaceful coexistence? Comrade Honner, in his speech, dealt in detail with the dangers threatening Austrian neutrality from certain reactionary circles and fascist groups of emigres active on Austrian territory. We completely agree with him, and hope that the Austrian Government, for the sake of improving neighborly relations will in the future avoid the licensing of such activities.

I would like to lend support to the report of the Austrian comrades by the following two examples. As will be remembered by those present, the Hungarian papers reported in detail that Miklos Szabo, the former Smallholders Party member of Parliament who returned home from abroad disgusted with the shameful deeds of Hungarian traitors who went to serve the imperialists and (word indistinct), at his press conference revealed with names and irrefutable facts that on neutral Austrian territory secret espionage and diversionist activity is being conducted against Hungary.



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We also declare that we consider it to be a positive symptom that the Austrian Government recently banned the fascist-Hungarian paper UT ES CEL (Road and Aim) and expelled its editor from Austria. This marks a step forward. However, we believe that more such steps are needed, particularly regarding the activity of agencies in Austria of Radio Free Europe and the Community of Hungarian Comrades In Arms (Magyar Harcosok Lajtarsi Kozosege).

The leaders of Austrian political life must believe us, not only the bourgeois circles, but the editors of ARBEITER-ZEITUNG as well; all who personally experienced the horrors of fascism, that the agents working in Radio Free Europe agencies in Austria and those active in the Community of Hungarian Comrades In Arms are depraved people, fascists just like the Arrow Cross backers of UT ES CEL, who are likewise active in contravention of the ninth paragraph of the Austrian state treaty, and in violation of the rules of international law.

The leaders of Austrian political life would do well to remember the dreadful road, and would then agree with us that this fascist emigration cannot enjoy any loyalty or support, because it is striving for the revival of hatred between peoples and the outbreak of a new war. They should remember what the past year, too, has proven, that fascism does not stop at the Austrian frontier. They should remember that the Adenauer victory in West Germany does not menace us to the same extent as Austria.

When we read about the results and the conduct of the elections in West Germany, we thought of the Austrian people and of 1937. Nor can we pass over without comment the fact that Mr. Helmer, the Socialist Minister of the Interior, not as a member of the government, but as one of the Austrian Socialist Party leaders, more than once adopted an impermissible tone with reference to Hungary. I read the news recently that the Hungarian Socialist Party in Emigration is preparing to hold a conference in Bonn, in Mr. Adenauer's Germany, and that Mr. Helmer, Minister of the Interior, on behalf of his party and with another of its members, deemed it necessary to address a telegram to the conference. In that telegram he referred to the government and state structure of the Hungarian People's Republic in an unequivocal tone calling for the sharpest and most resolute protest and rejection.

There are numerous questions awaiting solution between Hungary and Austria. Of primary importance is the case of the repatriation of Hungarian citizens under 18. The most recent note of the Hungarian Ministry of Foreign Affairs reveals that more than 12,000 such Hungarians minors, prompted by the delusions of thirst for adventure, and without their parents, fled to Austria. Only about ten percent of them have returned home because the Austrian Government has repeatedly prevented the children's return.



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If the Austrian Government would treat with good will this request and demand of the Hungarian Government, well-founded both from the legal and humanitarian points of view, we would advance a step further towards the normalization of relations between the two states. However, as long as this does not happen, we remain compelled to hold the Austrian Government responsible for the life and future of the Hungarian children who have drifted away from their homeland and their family circle into the world's turmoil.

Recently we read a Vienna newspaper report that 287 Hungarian dissidents have returned from the Dominican Republic. (Indistinct passage recalling what Miklos Szabo said at his press conference about the sad lot of Hungarian refugees in San Domingo, taken to work in the jungle and dying of heat and malaria with little food and less medical attention, and punitive camps for the discontented.) However, briefly, I must point out here that the representative of that same Dominican Republic has spoken before the United Nations in defense of humaneness and against oppression. We were shocked to learn recently that it is still intended to send the Hungarian minors in Austria to the United States, Canada, Australia, Belgium, West Germany and other countries, instead of giving them every opportunity to return home.

The Hungarian parents concerned read the letters of their far-off children and with tears in their eyes they are awaiting them and calling them back.

Certain Austrian papers, however, are trying to mislead Austrian public opinion in this affair with horror stories and--if you will pardon the expression--veritable rolers' tales (rablo mesek). I have just read in an Austrian paper that a young Hungarian girl has attempted suicide after talking on the telephone to her father, who asked her to return home because her mother was seriously ill. The paper could not admit that it was the incomprehensible and inadmissible attitude of the Austrian Government which drove the girl to such a crisis and to suicide. Therefore it dished out a horror story to credulous readers asserting that the terrible Kddar Government is forcing Hungarian fathers and mothers to call their children home.

I think that we can also ask our Austrian comrades who are present to help by means of political work on the part of our sister party, to dispel the effect of alarmist Austrian press reports and to inspire in Austrian fathers and mothers a feeling of solidarity and understanding which will lead to condemnation of the rigid attitude of Austrian official circles toward all sentiments of humaneness and family feelings in opposition to the requirements of the law. (Applause)



It is our sacred conviction that the Austrian people want to live in friendship with the Hungarian people. Ordinary people in Austria have accepted the fact that there is a people's state in Hungary. They evince warm sympathy for the efforts of the Hungarian people to build socialism. They know that the wheel of time cannot be reversed, that the development of socialism cannot be halted; they understand that, in Hungary, it is impossible to restore the old world of the gentry even with the help of arms and force (eroeszak). (Applause)

The Austrian people remember 1934 better than quite a number of their political leaders do and these very memories have led them to draw their own sober conclusions from the events of October 1956 in Hungary. They do not consider what is clearly and openly a counterrevolution to be a revolution. The politically mature Austrian people are aware that a counterrevolutionary victory in Hungary would have made democratic rights uncertain in Austria, too.

As Comrade Honner said in his speech, Prince Eszterhazy is now dislodging the small peasants of Burgenland who have been farming on his estates. This was a bitter lesson for thousands of Burgenland peasants.

The Hungarian peasant has taken possession of the land for good. The rule of the huge landed estates of the Eszterhazy type is no longer typical of our country. Hungary is no longer a land of three million peasant beggars.

The Eszterhazys and Mindszentys played a great part in the events of last October. We hope that they will not have a chance to play a similar role in Austria.

The Austrian and Hungarian people have had opportunities for centuries to learn the meaning of the rule of such people. They have also had opportunities to awaken too the realization that the Hapsburgs and landlords, and later the manufacturers, were able to maintain their cursed and cruel rule over this part of Europe for such a long time because they always incited the various nationalities inhabiting the area, the Hungarians, Austrians, Slavs, and Rumanians, against one another. They always wanted to set them against one another so that they would not be able to recognize their common enemies, the exploiting overlords.

It is not by chance that the First World War broke out in this part of Europe and that the Second World War also wrought destruction in the Danube valley. It was touch-and-go (haljszalón mulott) last year whether, as a result of the counterrevolutionary events of the autumn, a third world war would be provoked here.



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We have learned from the events of history. We have fought and will continue to fight against the policy of setting peoples against one another--a policy inspired by the imperialists and in their interests. Let the world take note that the Hungarian people can no longer be set against the Soviet Union, against Czechoslovakia, or the Rumanian people, or Yugoslavia, or against the Austrian people. (Applause)

The peoples of Southeast Europe, the peoples living along the banks of the Danube, want peace. They want to work peacefully, building socialism, and will defend the peace and the people's power under all circumstances and against everyone. (Applause)

Western capitalist papers and certain hostile radio centers would have liked to turn this Oct. 23 into an anniversary. They dreamed that, with the help of their incitement, they would succeed in bringing about a repetition of last year's Oct. 23. Why all that great zeal? Needless to say, the Hungarian working people's interests, the life and fate of the Hungarian people are not close to the hearts of the imperialists and their agents.

Their aim this year was the same as last. Let us just remember, among other things, that last autumn, simultaneously with their subversive work in Hungary, they attacked the Suez region and Egypt. (Editor's Note: Follows indistinct passage to the effect that the imperialists seek to divert attention from their own adventurous and political goals by keeping the Hungarian question permanently on the agenda.)

However, a flaw crept into their calculations because they forgot that the people are learning, that the Hungarian people, too, have learned a great deal from the bitter events of last autumn. After last year's counterrevolutionary rising was crushed with arms, every imperialist attempt failed among us.

You will remember MUK (initials of the slogan "We Shall Start Again in March"--Ed.). You will remember the fostering of a certain mood in June and July. You will remember the U.N. committee of five. The Hungarian people have seen through the imperialist lies and slanders. (Indistinct passage)

The dreams have vanished because, under the guidance of the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party and under the leadership of the Hungarian Revolutionary Worker-Peasant Government, the Hungarian working people, with militant resolution, are standing up to every hostile attempt and are defending their magnificent socialist achievements (few words indistinct). (Applause)



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(Editor's Note: In the closing passage, largely indistinct, Marosan spoke of national unity, international proletarian solidarity, and the success of the current talks between the Austrian and Hungarian party delegations.)

The talks have been completely successful and, despite all the attempts of the troublemakers, the peoples of Austria and Hungary have consequently come closer to each other.

I would like to ask our guests to tell our Austrian working brothers that we Hungarian workers are striving with indomitable faith and strength to build socialism and are doing everything commensurate with our strength to do our share in the defense of peace.

We send the working people of Austria our warmest fraternal greetings.  
(Applause)

Long live the fraternal unity and cooperation of the Austrian Communist Party and the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party. (Applause)

Long live sincere friendship between the Austrian and Hungarian peoples.  
(Applause)