

PRESS CONFERENCE BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL HELD AT UN
HEADQUARTERS ON THURSDAY, 22 AUGUST 1957

Miss Pauline FREDERICK (National Broadcasting Company): I believe that Premier Kadar has said that the invitation for you to come to Hungary is still open. Would any useful purpose be served by your going to Hungary to look over the situation?

The SECRETARY-GENERAL: For me, the question remains open. The problem whether or not a useful purpose would be served is, I think, raised a little bit too early. Let us first see what comes out of the debate in the General Assembly.

Miss FREDERICK: Do you feel that both sides will be adequately presented in the coming session on Hungary?

The SECRETARY-GENERAL: I hope so.

Mr. A. A. VAS DIAS (Nieuwe Rotterdamse Courant): Have you already any indications, Mr. Secretary-General, which countries intend to be represented by their Ministers of Foreign Affairs at the next special session on Hungary?

The SECRETARY-GENERAL: Only to a very limited extent, so limited indeed that I would hesitate to mention any because it would give a somewhat false picture. I think that we shall have to wait another week or so before we know.

Pauline Frederick (National Broadcasting Company):
/ Last winter, when the Assembly instructed or suggested that you go to Hungary, a certain time limit was imposed on your departure. In other words, the Hungarian Government was asked more or less to agree to your going within a certain time; otherwise there did not seem to be much purpose in going. If this coming session of the Assembly should decide that it would be worth while for you to go over to have a look at the situation, are you prepared to go at any particular time?

The SECRETARY-GENERAL: It is a rather hypothetical question. You say, "if they were to decide". If they were so to decide in categorical terms, it is a matter of course that the Secretary-General would obey.

Pauline Frederick (National Broadcasting Company):
/ If it should be the sense of the Assembly that you should go over?

The SECRETARY-GENERAL: That makes it a little more subtle. It is what Roosevelt used to call an "iffy" question, and I think I would be justified in not replying.