

ITEM No. 2489/56AH
21 March
AA Ref.No. H-26HUNGARYREGIME RESPONSE TO THE "BALLOON-ACTION".PROPAGANDA 2600
Anti-Western 2601 aTHE HUNGARIAN PRIME MINISTER'S SPEECH ON THE
BALLOON ACTION.SOURCE AUDIENCE ANALYSIS SECTION: Szabad Nep, 9 February 1956, page 5AUDIENCE ANALYSIS SECTION COMMENT: NoneEVALUATION COMMENT: None

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The dominant feature of the foreign policy of the Hungarian government last year was the readiness for cooperation for the sake of improving the international climate. The Prime Minister, Andras HEGEDUES said in his speech at the opening session of the Hungarian National Assembly on February 8 among other: "The initiative had been displayed on several occasions towards settling the disputed issues through negotiation with the utmost regard for mutual interests. Hungarian Yugoslav relations had been improved through the efforts of both sides. Hungary had sought to build good relations and extend contacts with such nations as India -Egypt-Indonesia-Syria and Sudan.

The Hungarian government wishes to maintain normal relations with the 3 great Western powers for the sake of improving the international climate and promoting closer contact between the East and the West, HEGEDUES went on. The position is more or less satisfactory so far as France and Britain are concerned, while the relations between the Hungarian peoples republic and the United States of America are, unfortunately, far from what normal international relations should be, and that through no fault of Hungary. There have been pronouncements and ambitions of late on the part of United States ruling circles which mean direct interference in Hungary's internal affairs.

I must state emphatically, Andras HEGEDUES said to stormy applause of the audience, that the time when the agents of imperialist powers could lord it unhindered in Hungary has gone for ever, balloons fitted with American made devices radioreceivers and transmitters sent in with reconnaissance purposes have been sighted and caught over Hungarian territory lately.

The Hungarian government repeat here, at the session of the National Assembly, their protest at these provocative acts outraging the freedom and independence of Hungary and threatening her security and strongly demand an end to these acts.

The considerable rise of the prestige of the Hungarian peoples

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republic, HEGEDUES continued, is demonstrated by the fact that she has today diplomatic relations with 36 countries. Talks are under way for establishing diplomatic relations with Sudan, Burma, Afghanistan, Greece and a number of Latin American countries. Representatives of the Hungarian people are taking an active part in the work of more than 150 international organizations.

Andras HEGEDUES said the admission of Hungary to the United Nations along with the other 15 countries had been an event of supreme importance in the country's life since the April session of the National Assembly 1955. Permit me, he said, to express, here, before the National Assembly, our gratitude to the government of the Soviet Union for getting Hungary admitted to the United Nations through its peacestriving and enterprising policy.

Turning to the 8 nation Warsaw treaty Andras Hegedues emphasized that the Hungarian government considered the cooperation of the countries of the Socialist camp to be of signal importance. The Hungarian government believed that this cooperation had been and remained one of the most important factors in promoting the further favorable development of international affairs and strengthening peace.

The consistent peace policy of the Socialist countries, he said which was amply proved by the declaration of the political consultative committee of the Warsaw treaty countries and by A. Bulganin's message to President Eisenhower, is winning increasing support of the peoples throughout the world.

The will of the peoples for peace is growing and becoming a more and more effective, historymaking force. The government of the Hungarian peoples republic is firmly convinced that there are real opportunities for achieving a further lessening of world tension and strengthening international cooperation.

We are anxious, Andras Hegedues emphasized, to do our utmost to facilitate the solution of the disarmament problem which is one of the most important on the world scene today. We will take part in any international campaign for strengthening peace and security in Europe and the rest of the world. We want to cooperate with all countries on the principle of the possibility and necessity of peaceful coexistence of nations with different social systems, on the principle of non-interference in each others internal affairs and respect for each others sovereignty.

The speakers in the debate on Andras Hegedues report included Marton Horvath, Sandor Barcs and Janos Peter.

Upon the conclusion of the debate the national assembly approved the report of Andras Hegedues and the governments activity at the Prague conference of the political consultative committee of the Warsaw treaty countries.

The National Assembly elected Gyorgy non supreme public prosecutor of the Hungarian peoples republic.

End.