

# ASSEMBLY OF CAPTIVE EUROPEAN NATIONS

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## ACEN'S AFTERNOON AND EVENING PLENARY MEETINGS- SEPTEMBER 20, 1960 (Continued)

Albania  
Bulgaria  
Czechoslovakia  
Estonia  
Hungary  
Latvia  
Lithuania  
Poland  
Romania

### September 20, Afternoon Meeting

Elections for ACEN's Seventh Session resulted as follows: Chairman, Mr. Vaclovas Sidzikauskas, Lithuania; Vice-Chairman, Mr. Stefan Korbonski, Poland; Secretary General (re-elected), Mr. Brutus Coste, Romania; Deputy Secretary General, Mr. Edmond Gaspar.

### Soviet Aggression and Continuous Interference in the Captive Countries

The first speaker in the debate was the rapporteur of this item, Mr. Vilis Masens, who said: "... In conclusion I would like to warn, in the name of all of us, the free nations, committed, non-committed, or neutral, to keep alert, faced as they are, with the latest, the most dangerous of Soviet aggressive moves whose immediate targets are the still-free nations.

"Who among us could have believed during the opening of our first session in this very same building, that only six years later, the enslavers of our nations, together with their henchmen, would be holding their summit meetings only a few hundred meters away from our meeting place in the very heart of New York on the territory of the United States, the strongest bastion of the free world, and the hope of all captive nations.

Mr. Ferenc Nagy, Hungary, declared: "... We are not demanding the restoration of the pre-World War II world. The Soviet Union usurped the power not from the old conservative or reactionary governments, but from the post-war democratic and progressive governments. We demand simply for our countries what the peoples of Africa are achieving one after another: The restoration of the right of self-determination to our peoples, and the historical independence of our countries. Since the question of fundamental rights of people has become, through the liberation of colonies, one of the chief subjects on the agenda of present history, we assert that the right of the Eastern European peoples to self-determination and independence can not be too long disregarded by international forums or by the United Nations. "

Mr. Adam Niebieszczanski, Poland, said: "... If Gomulka were a courageous man, he would not have joined the chorus of puppets



at this session of the U.N. He is an introvert, does not like strangers, and hates traveling. He came because he was ordered to do so, and his arrival is anything but a display of courage... Unfortunately, Mr. Gomulka's defense of Polish territorial and other interests must sound rather hollow. After all, he agreed to the Soviet annexation of almost half of Poland's national territory. Also his role as Moscow's proconsul in Poland does not make him an ideal spokesman for the cause of Poland. He is reneging on his 1956 promises. The area of freedom won by the people is shrinking in many fields. The Primate of Poland is gravely concerned about the present governing trends in Poland as they may lead the people again into a mood of despair. Needless to say, we fully share the Cardinal's anxiety..."

Mr. Vasil Germenji, Albania, observed: "...There have been continuous purges and executions within the Party ranks of which Mehmet Shehu is the foremost responsible instigator due to his fanatical advocacy of the Stalinist line. Some of the victims of these Party purges are Sejfullah Maleshova, Dr. Ymer Dishnica and Pandi Kristo who dared to advocate a more reasonable approach of a good relationship with the western countries. Tuk Jakova and Bedri Spahiu were purged as deviationists. The latest two members of the Politbureau to be purged are Mrs. Liri Belishova, widow of Nako Spiro who according to the Communist version has 'committed suicide,' and Koco Tashko, accused for 'grave faults' and 'hostile activities against the Party line.' This last purge took place just before Mehmet Shehu left Tirana to attend the 15th Session of the United Nations General Assembly, here in New York, just across the street..."

Mr. Nicola Antonoff, Bulgaria, concluded his report by emphasizing the miserable conditions prevailing in his homeland. He drew attention to a recent appeal of the Bulgarian Communist regime urging the people to help the collective farmers to cultivate the small parcels of land reserved for the needs of their own families, because the production of the collective farms was inadequate to nourish even the peasants themselves. This government appeal, the Bulgarian spokesman said, proves that Bulgaria, once a grain exporting country, can no longer feed its own people.

#### Appeal to the United Nations

The ACEN Appeal to the U.N. in this matter said: "...The United Nations has exercised its authority in many analogous situations in other areas of the world. There can be no excuse for the United Nations not exercising its authority to alleviate the situation created and maintained by Soviet aggression and intervention in Eastern and Central Europe. Whenever the United Nations has exercised its authority regarding events in our countries it has, unfortunately, done so in only a half-hearted way. Nor has it insisted with the same vigor on the observance of the provisions of the Charter with regard to Eastern and Central Europe as it has with regard to other areas of the world.

"...The Assembly of Captive European Nations, therefore, appeals to the Free United Nations member nations to propose the inscription in the agenda of the 15th Session of the United Nations General Assembly of an item entitled 'The Situation in Eastern and Central Europe'."



Extraordinary Meeting in Commemoration of the 20th Anniversary of Soviet Aggression Against the Baltic States, September 20, evening.

The presiding officer was the newly-elected Vice-Chairman of ACEN, Mr. Stefan Korbonski, and the rapporteur was Mr. Vaclovas Sidzikauskas, the new Chairman.

Resolution

The Resolution which was unanimously adopted, "...appeals to the conscience of all mankind to perceive the magnitude of the injustice perpetrated upon the Baltic States and to support the efforts toward the restoration of the liberty of these countries; urges the governments of the great Western Powers to use all peaceful means, including the processes of the United Nations and of international conferences, to prevail upon the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to withdraw its armed forces, administration and agents from the territories of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania so as to enable these people to carry out free and unfettered elections under international supervision; conveys to the peoples of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania its admiration for their resolute resistance to the endeavors of the oppressor to destroy their national and personal identity."

Addresses

After the invocation by the Rev. Albert Ozols, the Rapporteur, the new ACEN Chairman, said, "This commemoration is not only the expression of solidarity of all the members of ACEN, but also an act of indictment against the government of the Soviet Union and its head, Nikita Khrushchev, who came to New York to parade in the U.N. as a champion of anti-imperialism and anti-colonialism."

Mr. William Vanden Heuvel, Democratic candidate for the U.S. Congress, expressed feelings of brotherhood with ACEN's activities. He called Janos Kadar's presence in the U.S. both an insult to the U.N. and to this country. He emphasized the Soviet's aims at world domination, warning that, therefore, the U.S. should never let down its guard. He expressed the hope that the Baltic States will regain their freedom and praised ACEN for reminding the world of this Soviet outrage against the three Baltic States.

Other speakers on this issue were Johannes Kaiv, Estonian Consul; Mr. Vytautas Stasinskas, Lithuanian Consul; Bernard Yarrow, Vice-President, Free Europe Committee; Christopher Emmet, Chairman, American Friends of the Captive Nations; and Messrs. Leonhard Vahter, Andrzej Pomian, Juraj Slavik, Augustin Popa, Pal Jonas, Vasil Germenji, George Dimitrov, Vilis Masens and Msgr. John Balkunas, who spoke and also delivered the closing prayer.