

ASSEMBLY OF CAPTIVE EUROPEAN NATIONS

29 WEST 57th STREET  
New York 19, New York  
PLaza 1-3850

Press Release # 441  
April 24, 1962  
For Immediate Release



ACEN REQUESTS PRESIDENT KENNEDY RECONSIDER REPORTED

NON-AGGRESSION DECLARATIONS BETWEEN NATO AND WARSAW PACT REGIMES

The Assembly of Captive European Nations in an appeal to President John F. Kennedy urged him to reconsider the reported proposal providing for an exchange of non-aggression declarations between NATO and the Warsaw Pact regimes. The telegram, over the signature of Chairman Ferenc Nagy, pointed out that such an act - viewed by the captive peoples as a Western concession in order to avoid a showdown on Berlin - would dash their remaining hopes and shatter their spirit of resistance, and thus also deprive the West of a vital factor of deterrence. The captive peoples, the telegram said, by sanctioning the status quo, would confer to Moscow "complete immunity and a free hand in the whole area."

Another argument brought forth by the Assembly was that a non-aggression declaration would not bolster the security of the United States and its allies, but would only satisfy Moscow's expectation of gains to be reaped from the impact they believe it would produce in East-Central Europe and even in other parts of the world.

The full text of the telegram is attached to this release.

Albania  
Bulgaria  
Czechoslovakia  
Estonia  
Hungary  
Latvia  
Lithuania  
Poland  
Romania