

Moscow, Tass in Russian January 24, 1958.

PRAVDA ON THE U.N. COMMITTEE ON HUNGARY.

Tass transmitted the following report on 24 January: "Another slander against the countries of the socialist camp has been finally crushed, writes PRAVDA today. The representatives of the U.N. have disavowed the illegal Committee on the Hungarian question. As is known, at one time, the public of all countries noted the dubious character of the 'testimonies' which are the basis of its 'Report'. Out of dozens of witnesses, allegedly questioned by the Committee, the 'Report' mentioned the names of only three people - proclaimed enemies of Hungarian people's democracy. The Committee refused to give the names of other 'witnesses.' Now, it has become known that the members of the ill-famed Committee did not know the names of the majority of witnesses. Their names were not mentioned even at the private sittings of the Committee. The statement by the Special Commission set up by the U.N. Secretary General to inquire into this case emphasises that 'such documents cannot be trusted in any respect now'. However, this is not the end of the scandalous story about the 'Report on the Hungarian question,' since the Commission members propose, obviously under pressure from somebody, to seal up the documents which are at their disposal in a parcel and to 'burn them in the presence of U.N. official representatives.' The world public long ago judged the merits of activities of provocateurs and slanderers who tried to use the defeat of the counter-revolution in Hungary to foment world war. The unmasking of the activities of ill-famed Committee on the Hungarian question has confirmed that judgement."

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The same version of events was given/slightly longer form in a PRAVDA article by London correspondent Nekrasov, broadcast in foreign languages on the same day. (in German and in Spanish)

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In English for South-East Asia (Jan. 24.) an anonymous commentary asserted that the burning of the records had been inspired by the U.S. State Department, as the publication of the list of witnesses would have "unmasked" the authors of "that false document," the Report on Hungary. "Fearing exposure, the State Department is attempting to cover its tracks." But many facts and documents revealed "the U.S. ruling circles as the inspirers and organizers of the counter-revolutionary insurrection in Hungary."

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In Hungarian there was a Moscow commentary by Yury Ostrov describing the Report on Hungary as "humbug" based on evidence which was "the most brazen fake." But the decision to burn the records meant that instead of the "crooks" being exposed it was proposed to cover up the traces. Ostrov concluded by blaming "such masters of the cold war as Mr. Dulles and company" for the whole "tragi-comedy" of the Report.