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NOTE ON HUNGARIAN DEVELOPMENTS
DURING JANUARY AND FEBRUARY 1959

Copy No.

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I REPRESSIVE MEASURES

A. Official policy

1/ Official policy to the effect that the punishment for "counter-revolutionary crimes" was coming to an end was repeated by Hungarian authorities.^{1/} On the opening date of the session of the National Assembly on 18 February 1959, Prime Minister Hrusch said: "Our ^{Judicial} ~~Executive~~ authorities have completed the investigation of counter-revolutionary crimes and the calling to account of counter-revolutionists". He added that the judicial authorities had been most careful to distinguish between those who belonged to the former ruling classes and who were class traitors, on the one hand, and those who were misled by hostile propaganda, on the other. The police and the Prosecutor's office, as well as the courts, had taken great care to comply "with the requirements of socialist legality".

2/ The statement was again made, on 27 February 1959 at the National Conference of Judges in Budapest, this time by the Minister of Justice, that "the Courts have completely finished the trials of counter-revolutionary cases". The task of Hungarian Justice for the year 1959 was outlined in an interview that the head of the Public Prosecutor's Office in Budapest gave to the newspaper Hungary Today. It underlines the shift of emphasis already mentioned in the "Note on Hungarian Developments during October-November 1958", or rather the changed headings under which infractions of the law are grouped; no mention is made any more of counter-revolutionary crimes, but rather of the "defence of social property" and the necessity

1/ For a full statement on the achievements of Hungarian Justice in 1958 see the report of the Supreme Prosecutor to the National Assembly on 20 February, in Annex I of this paper.

for maintenance of social standards. The passages of the interview read like statements made by the most puritan legislators:

"1959 will be a busy year for prosecuting organs. In my opinion we have a threefold task. The first is the liquidation of work evasion dangerous to the public, bootlegging, and prostitution, to a higher extent than before. The second is the practical realization of the prevention of juvenile delinquency. The third is the struggle against alcoholism. All three tasks require extensive preparations. For example, prostitution is facilitated by the use of cheap premises as apartments, where the opportunity to surreptitiously disappear is much greater. We must make it possible for women who went astray to find their way to honest work. In connection with juvenile delinquency we work together with the Council for Child and Youth Welfare. We already know of initiatives in this respect which hold out promise for the future.

"Our most difficult problem is the struggle against alcoholism. On the proposal of prosecuting and police organs some liquor stores were closed down even this year, but there is more to be done. First of all, we must liquidate 'standing-up' drinking places at busy traffic centres, as well as near enterprises and factories.

"All workers of the prosecutor's office in Budapest will work to make the life of the working people more secure in the new year."

B. Sentences

Some light has been shed by the spokesman of the Foreign Ministry, in an interview on 22 January, on the fate of the leaders of the Budapest Workers' Council during the uprising. To the question "What measures have been taken in regard to Racz and Kali, the leaders of the Budapest Workers' Council?" the spokesman replied: "It is well known that trials and investigations have been concluded in regard to counter-revolutionary crimes. This applies also to the individuals in question."

Information received from people coming out of Hungary, such as those visiting the World's Fair in Brussels, confirms the fact that both these leaders and János Kádár, Chairman of the Workers' Council of the 10th

District of Budapest, were tried and sentenced to death in a secret trial in the spring of 1958 before even the start of the Nagy trial. It is also reported that two other Workers' Council leaders were sentenced to death in absentia. They are: Ferenc Tóke, former head of the organizational department of the Workers' Council, who now lives in France, and György Sebestyén, presently in Germany.

Other purges have come to light in the context of end-of-the-year reports. The Chairman of the National Council of Physical Training, ~~and his colleagues~~ when opening its General Assembly in Budapest on 16 February 1959, remarked that the various sports clubs had been consolidated during the past year and the "total of 96 persons who had taken part in various counter-revolutionary activities had been removed from the leading sports organizations and replaced by honest sportsmen".

The Associated Press reports from Budapest on 13 February 1959 that the Gábor Péter who had been Chief of the Hungarian Secret Police under the Rakosi regime was released from prison, where he had been serving a life sentence since 1953. Official sources did not confirm or deny this information, but it is reported that Mr. Péter went back to his original profession, that of a tailor.

US missing

I FOREIGN RELATIONS

A. With other people's republics

1. Czechoslovakia

A delegation composed of representatives of the Party and the Government stayed in Czechoslovakia from 10 to 17 December, and, according to the joint communique, the talks centred on a wide range of subjects including Party unity, and "the most important problems of the present international situation". (The text of the joint communique is in annex I.) Wide publicity was given to these talks by the Hungarian press and radio, and a great number of speeches, toasts and statements were made by both sides at railroad stations, receptions and factories. This trip took place immediately before the 21st Party Congress in Moscow, and its primary purpose was to bring the Hungarian Party more closely in line with the Czechoslovak Party.

Mr. Kadar was supposed to head the delegation to Czechoslovakia but he became ill at the last moment. The Austrian newspaper Die Presse of 17 December expressed the opinion that the absence of Mr. Kadar detracted much of the significance of the visit: a Czechoslovak Government and Party delegation returning earlier from Sofia/^{had} made a short stopover in Budapest, during which it was agreed that the differences existing between the Czechoslovak and Hungarian Party leaderships would be settled in a personal conference between Kessov, Kadar and Novotny.

The purpose of the visit was expressed by Mr. Kadar in clear terms when greeting the returning delegation at the Budapest railroad station on 17 December:

"Our delegation was charged with the task of further strengthening and deepening the friendly, fraternal internationalist relations based on a foundation of principles between the Czechoslovak Communist and Hungarian Socialist Workers Party. This is of particular importance under the present circumstances when, on a worldwide scale, socialism, the triumphant idea of the working class, is shaping the fate of mankind.

"Under such circumstances, the capitalists, in despair, are mobilizing their old and often discredited forces, such as rightwing social democracy, as well as forces recently brought into play, such as the revisionists within the international workers movement. They want to disrupt the unity of the working class of the world, the unity of its revolutionary parties."

Mr. Harosan is the member of the mission who went the farthest in supporting the unanimity of views between the two Governments and who gave the strongest expression to the idea that the developments in Czechoslovakia, in both the political and economic spheres, are a model for Hungary to follow:

"We have now been able to see for ourselves the achievements of your working class... Czechoslovakia is, in every respect, a country of such a high degree of development that it can already enter into competition with many developed capitalist countries as to the up-to-date character of its industry and its people's cultural and living standard... Proletarian internationalism and the equality and brotherhood of peoples has become a living reality in Czechoslovakia... We Hungarians have unfortunately been left somewhat behind... but we are firmly resolved to catch up the lag."

Possibly the most significant feature of this visit was the attack on and condemnation of Yugoslavia by all those who made speeches. At the reception, on 15 December, of the President of the Czechoslovak Republic and First Secretary of the Central Committee in honour of the Hungarian delegation, Mr. Harosan made a direct attack on Yugoslavia, which resulted in the departure of the Yugoslav Ambassador from the reception:

"The cause of these harmful and dangerous attempts at disrupting unity is served by revisionism, which is represented by the programme - alien to Marxism-Leninism - of the Yugoslav League of Communists."

✓ Mr. Harosan also made a statement to the effect that in October 1956 Czechoslovak volunteers had been ready to help Hungarian Communists in their fight against the "counter-revolution" but that the action of the Red Army had made this intervention unnecessary. This corroborates statements made by several witnesses before the Special Committee on the Problem of Hungary.

18 February
Mr. Kadar, however, did visit Czechoslovakia, Slovakia when returning from the Soviet Union, where he participated in the 21st Congress. It is reported that this visit was made on the advice of the Soviet Union and in order to strengthen still further the bond between Hungary and Czechoslovakia ideologically and politically. It is not unlikely that Czechoslovakia, which is considered to be the most reliable satellite, was entrusted by the Soviet Union with the role of influencing Hungarian and Rumanian Communist movements and establishing a united front of these three countries against Tito. Czechoslovakia has followed most consistently an anti-Tito policy since 1948, and during the uprising in Hungary was the only satellite openly hostile to the Hungarian revolution. Mr. Kadar, in the past, has been considered as not altogether unfriendly to Titoism and it seemed, therefore, especially important that he visit Czechoslovakia himself.

Another attack is contained in the joint declaration, in a passage which reads as follows:

"The representatives of the two Parties state that revisionism in our time is the chief danger to the international revolutionary workers' movement."

Mr. Kunnich, in a speech at the railway station in Budapest upon his return from Czechoslovakia, repeated this attack, at which time the Yugoslav Ambassador in Budapest, who had been invited with other members of the diplomatic corps to receive the returning delegation, left the welcoming party.

"The delegations completely agreed that at present the paramount duty of the Communist and Workers' Parties is the unfailing preservation of ideological purity. The Czechoslovak Communist Party and the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party take up the struggle keenly against every deviation, every revisionist view, including the revisionist views expressed at the Seventh Congress of the League of Yugoslav Communists."

A secondary aim of the visit was to reaffirm the economic solidarity of Czechoslovakia and Hungary. Earlier, an agreement had been concluded for the joint utilization of the Danube water power through the construction of the Nagymaros-Viograd power station, and an agreement on economic co-operation for the period 1961-65. The joint declaration emphasized the fact that the two countries "are closely co-operating in the realization of the international socialist division of labour in the spirit of the recommendations of the Council of Mutual Economic Aid."

A trade protocol for 1959 was signed in Budapest between the two countries which foresees an increase of exchange of goods by 6 per cent over 1958. An editorial of the Czechoslovak paper Rude Pravo of 10 December recalls the technical aid given to Hungary by Czechoslovakia in the construction of an experimental high-tension power station and the building of a

rubber and sports shoe factory. "The import of Hungarian bauxite, of which Hungary is the largest European producer, is of great importance to our country."

Mr. Husak, in his statement made upon his return from Czechoslovakia, underlined the economic ideas fostered by the Soviet Union in relation to international division of labour among socialist countries:

"Our path of progress, our objectives, are identical to a degree where it no longer is possible to separate the development and advancement of the two countries. The rapid development of the Czechoslovak and Hungarian industry has a mutual effect; the economies of the two countries are, to a significant extent, complementary and mutually helpful. It is common knowledge that in our foreign trade Czechoslovakia occupies second place - the USSR occupying the first. Economic relations with Hungary also play an important part in the economic life of Czechoslovakia. Only by bearing in mind the exceptionally close and harmonious mutually advantageous co-operation can we grasp the magnitude of the importance to us of the gigantic development envisaged by Czechoslovakia in her long-term plans."

2. Yugoslavia

The Yugoslav Government reacted strongly to the attacks made upon it by Hungarian and Czechoslovak Government officials. The spokesman for the Foreign Ministry stated, on 21 December 1958:

"The Yugoslav Ambassadors in Prague and Budapest, on the basis of instructions received from the Yugoslav Government, have protested to the governments of Czechoslovakia and Hungary against the crude attack on Yugoslavia in the joint declaration of the Party-State Delegations of Czechoslovakia and Hungary, and in the unfriendly speeches made at that time."

A radio commentary from Zagreb on 18 December also expressed strong indignation:

"As you see, the Party and Government delegations of Hungary and Czechoslovakia have also not missed the opportunity of attacking the programme and the policy of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia. One could almost say that this regrettable camp tradition has been

somewhat modernized and improved upon since criticism of the programme of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia has been extended to the entire policy of the League of Communists, both foreign and internal. An attempt has also been made to put the international workers' movement as a whole against the League of Communists of Yugoslavia. However, we do not see by what right and on behalf of which principles the Party and Government delegations of Czechoslovakia and Hungary appeal to the international workers' movement, while attacking the League of Communists of Yugoslavia and its policy.

"It is perhaps interesting to refer here to the incident created by Karsan, a member of the Politburo of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party, at a reception in Prague which was given by the First Secretary of the Czechoslovak Communist Party, Novotny, in honour of the Hungarian delegation. Karsan's provocation was the first rude attack on the League of Communists of Yugoslavia made by a responsible Hungarian personality. It is true that Karsanich, the leader of the Party and Government delegation, did not lag behind Karsan. The difference is, if that matters at all, that Karsanich attacked Yugoslavia and the League of Communists only after their return to Budapest, perhaps in order to induce his countrymen to be happy about results of the Prague talks.

"What benefits do Hungarian leaders expect to derive from anti-Yugoslav incidents? Do they hope perhaps in this way to resolve internal difficulties inherited from their predecessors? Or have they simply forgotten the cause of their difficulties? All in all, the declaration of the Party and Government delegations of Czechoslovakia and Hungary, as well as the provocative statements of the above-mentioned Hungarian politicians, are directed towards a further deterioration of relations between the socialist camp countries and Yugoslavia."

Another commentator from Belgrade, in a broadcast repeated in Czech and in Slovak, went so far as to say that

"the basic reason for these attacks lies in the fact that Yugoslavia enjoys great prestige and has many friends both in neighbouring Hungary as well as in Czechoslovakia. Therefore, according to the notions of the gang-leaders of the anti-Yugoslav campaign, untruths repeated ad infinitum should become truth. This is, however, an impossible task, for nobody has yet succeeded in it, and no one ever will."

The commentator added that East European countries often speak of their desire to have normal relations and even develop friendly co-operation with

Yugoslavia, but that actions such as the latest ones in Prague and Budapest showed that not only friendly, but also normal, relations were not desired, and that tension was thus artificially increased in relations with Yugoslavia.

Direct attacks on Mr. Kadar started on the occasion of his trip to Czechoslovakia. A commentator of Zagreb Radio on 24 February made the following remarks:

"Stimulated by what was said about Yugoslavia and the League of Yugoslav Communists from the rostrum of the 21st Congress, individual camp leaders go even further, and János Kadar, First Secretary of the Hungarian Party, during his recent stay in Czechoslovakia, brought so-called Yugoslav revisionism into direct relationship with the events which occurred in Hungary in 1956. It emerges from Kadar's speech in Prague that Hungary was a victim of Yugoslav revisionism and not of dogmatism and Stalinism, of Rakosi, Gero, Nagy and others.

"It is interesting, and to some extent symptomatic, that János Kadar broaches a subject which the 21st Congress did not mention at all, obviously because they thought it inconvenient to mention it at the time when the same policy, the same concepts, and the same practices which brought Hungary to the brink of catastrophe are again coming to the fore, both with regard to Yugoslavia and within the camp itself."

The deterioration in the relations between the two countries extended to the economic field. Under the title "Objectivity?", Nepeskedesek of 11 January carried an answer to a report recently published in Pravda, entitled "Journey in Hungary", in which the author describes living conditions as difficult, the buildings in Budapest run down and the prices of some goods, especially textiles, extremely high. The 24 January issue of Nepeskedesek, in an article entitled "A few questions concerning the Yugoslav economy", presents a dismal picture of conditions in Yugoslavia as compared to Hungary.

B. With Asia, Africa and the Middle East

1. Ceylon

By arrangement of the Hungarian Association for the United Nations, Mr. A. B. Perera, Ceylonese Ambassador in Cairo,^{1/} gave a lecture in Budapest on the subject of "New trends in the development of world politics" on 22 December. He spent several days in Hungary, and HTI on 23 December reported the following:

"Speaking about the activities of the United Nations and the debate on the Hungarian question, Perera told an HTI correspondent: 'The Hungarian question has not existed and does not exist now, and it was not at all necessary for it to be debated in the United Nations.' Ceylon's abstention from voting on the question is to be explained by 'a lack of orientation among certain people'. In the case of Ceylon, he said, 'the abstention was motivated by the conviction that the inclusion on the agenda of the so-called Hungarian question had only been an instrument of the cold war waged by the western imperialists'. He said that he found in Hungary a strong socialist government and regime supported by the people. He spoke of his good impressions gained in Budapest and said he would convey them to his own people so that friendship and understanding between the peoples of Ceylon and Hungary can be further strengthened."

According to a communique published on 11 February by the press department of the Hungarian Foreign Ministry,

"The Governments of Hungary and Ceylon, guided by the principles of peaceful coexistence among peoples and by the sincere intention of developing and strengthening the already existing relations between the two countries in the political, economic and cultural spheres, have decided to establish diplomatic relations and to exchange ambassadors between the two countries."

2. Guinea

A Government delegation of Guinea visited Hungary between 13 and 21 February and, according to the joint communique, "the most important

^{1/} Mr. Perera was an alternate representative on the Special Committee on the Problem of Hungary.

political, economic and cultural questions affecting the two countries" were discussed. The Guinean Delegation was given a very warm reception by the Government and was the first non-Communist country to be asked to address Parliament. In an interview granted to Leopold Sedar Senghor, the Guinean Minister of Commerce, Industry and Mining stated:

"We would welcome in our country various Hungarian goods. We need many things. I believe you might be able to send us industrial and agricultural machines, optical goods, textiles, and other industrial articles. The Republic of Guinea desires the realization of manifold political, economic and cultural relations between our countries."

The Government delegation requested the Hungarian news agency to publish a statement to the effect that the interview it had granted when visiting Czechoslovakia had been distorted.

"We deny most categorically the accuracy of the statement according to which we described the economic and foreign policy of our country by saying that it was closely copied from that of the people's democracies... The foreign and economic policies of the Republic of Guinea are fully expounded in the programme speeches of President Sekou Toure, and these are sufficiently well known."

3. UAE-Iraq

A Hungarian delegation headed by the Minister of Communications visited the Middle East at the invitation of the UAE and Iraqi Governments in January. An agreement was concluded, in the course of this trip, with Iraq concerning air and sea transport and technical assistance. Possibilities were discussed of the eventual participation of Hungarian specialists in the development plans of Iraq in the field of communications, and study tours in Hungary for Iraqi engineers and technicians. Talks took place also with President Nasser on further developing relations between Hungary and the UAE, especially in the economic and commercial fields. The mission also inspected Hungarian-made tugboats, machinery installations and bridges.

C. With other countries

1. Austria

Tension between the two Governments continued during this period. The Hungarian press was indignant that boxing champion László Papp had been denied an entry visa to Austria.^{1/} Furthermore, the Austrian Ministry of Public Information is reported to have sent confidential communications to all Austrian sports associations stating that "in the foreseeable future" invitations to Hungarian competitors to visit Austria and visits of their Austrian counterparts to Hungary were not desirable. As a further step, the Foreign Ministry instructed the Austrian Legation in Budapest not to issue visas to Hungarian competitors and sports correspondents. This "sports boycott" is viewed as an additional means of unsettling Hungarian-Austrian relations.

The possible return of Archduke Otto of Habsburg to Austria has created a violent reaction in Hungary and in official circles. In a broadcast of 18 December, Miklós Szabo, the same man who was a "refugee" in Vienna and later returned to Hungary, condemned in strong terms this possibility:

"It is not a matter of indifference for any country what is happening immediately across the frontiers, and for Hungary it certainly cannot be a matter of indifference that the descendant of the Hungarian people's hangmen is about to settle down again."

This move, it is stated, is supported by United States political strategists because of their fear of the German army which they are again rebuilding, and their fear of Soviet power and its influence upon Slav peoples.

^{1/} Bungasbudaer, 26 November, "Sporting Achievement of an Austrian Minister".

Cardinal Mindszenty, the Hungarian National Committee and the Free Europe Committee are accused of "dirty work ranging from espionage down to political incitement" in this connexion.

The Austrian press still complains about Hungarian border guards invading Austrian territory. Die Presse of 10 February states that labour units of the Hungarian Army are laying new mine-fields and building barbed-wire fences. It seems, the paper states, that the intention of the Hungarian authorities is to move the observation towers even closer to Austria, and even into Austria, and to camouflage them. This is the case at Deutsch-Willing, where an observation tower was pulled down and then rebuilt further inside Austrian territory.

2. United States (ff. 11-13)

4. The 21st Party Congress

The Hungarian delegation to the 21st Congress of the CPSU in Moscow consisted of Party Secretary János Kádár, Deputy Prime Minister István Ápró and Jeno Fock, member of the Politburo. The composition of the delegation pointed to the fact that not only political but also economic questions were to be discussed. The two main themes reiterated by the Hungarian delegation were the lag of Hungary behind other socialist countries in "socialist development" and the unity of the socialist camp under Soviet leadership.

Mr. Kádár addressed the meeting on 29 January, in a speech that was noteworthy for its subservient tone more than for the originality of the ideas expressed in it; Hungary, he stated, was endeavouring to follow as closely as possible the Moscow Party line, it had erred in the past but would do better in the future. By way of self-confession, Mr. Kádár said that "by rallying the strength of our people, by steadfastly supporting the idea of internationalism, we will overcome our relative lagging behind". Again, in an interview in Moscow, Mr. Kádár said: "The Soviet people are already living in the second and higher phase of socialist society, that of the era of building a communist society". In answer to a question as to what Mr. Kádár considered the explanation for the "marvellous achievements of the Soviet people, which are recognised all over the world", he gave an answer which could have been lifted out textually from the most orthodox manual on the narrow Party line:

"These achievements are due to the fact that in their work and struggle the Soviet people are led by the CPSU, the firm, united and revolutionary workers' party, armed with the teachings of Lenin,

scientific communist ideology and the ideology of Marxism-Leninism. We are glad to see that the Congress delegates enthusiastically testified to the correct and proven policy of the Leninist Central Committee of the CPSU. All of them stressed that the successes of the Soviet Union during the past three years were due to the systematic implementation of the policy laid down at the 20th Party Congress. It was with the same unity and firmness that the delegates condemned those inveterate dogmatists, factionists who, being unable to understand the policy worked out at the 20th Congress and the demands of life, were not ashamed to enter the road of anti-Party activity. It is only with the greatest enthusiasm that one can speak of the solid, rock-like unity of the Central Committee, of the Party membership and that of the Party and the people, as well as of the affection of the Soviet people towards the Party, the Central Committee and Comrade Nikita Khrushchev. The Marxist-Leninist ideological purity of the CPSU's policy, the unity of the Party and its closeness with the people are an example for all Communist Parties of the world."

The two themes of socialist unity under Soviet leadership and Hungary's lag were echoed by officials and the press inside Hungary. In a speech delivered on 29 January, Mr. Hunnicz, appraising the importance of the 21st Congress of the CPSU, declared:

"The development of the Soviet Union and the growth of its forces have always exerted a great influence on the fate of our country and our people. The 21st Congress is debating the seven-year plan which, already, marks the transition from socialism to communism. This fact opens up encouraging perspectives before us and allows for growing prosperity and a more rapid development in all the countries of the socialist camp."

A commentary over Budapest radio on 6 February stated that

"The CPSU Congress has officially shattered the Western dream that the socialist world contends with internal difficulties which will hinder its development... They have realized with astonishment not only the strength and the unity of the socialist camp, but also its extraordinary influence upon countries where capitalism is still the master, and, let us add, a very cruel master."

An article in Kommunist of 1 February contained the following remarks:

"Although we in Hungary have only reached the phase of building socialism, the building of a communist society is becoming for us a task of our times which is historically near and almost visible and perceptible...

"The 21st Congress represents the continuation and further development of the road mapped out by the 20th Congress... The resolutions of the 20th Congress had to be implemented in battle. First of all, the attempts of the Yugoslav revisionists and their fellow-travellers at disrupting the unity of the socialist camp had to be repelled. We are now able to say that the revisionist attempts, which in Hungary collapsed finally with the complete unveiling of the treachery of Kere Nagy and his associates, have ended in ignominious failure through the entire international labour movement. The forces of backward dogmatism also had to be dealt with. The CPSU Central Committee has condemned and deposed the factional group of Molotov, Malenkov, Kaganovich, Bulganin and Shepilov which tried to divert the Soviet Union from the only correct road of communist development, the Leninist road... The CPSU, led by its Central Committee, has served its ranks and arrived at the 21st Congress in complete unity and drawn up its programme for building communism and safeguarding peace."

2. Support of Soviet foreign policy

The anxiety of the Hungarian authorities to conform to the Moscow policies is the strongest in matters of foreign policy, where Hungarian official statements and press commentaries echo, practically word for word, the statements made by the Soviet Union and the policies pursued by it. This is especially the case with regard to Soviet policy concerning the German problem. Thus the Government supported fully the Soviet notes on the question of Berlin^{1/} and reiterated on several occasions the arguments used by the Soviet Union on Berlin^{1/} and on the question of the Soviet peace treaty proposals.^{2/} This similarity of views applies also to the

1/ Declaration of the Hungarian Government of 1 December.

2/ Interview given by Mr. Hunnicz to the Hungarian correspondents of the New York Times and the New York Herald Tribune on 20 January 1955.

attitudes towards the United Arab Republic, the events in Iraq and the developments in the Chinese People's Republic. In this latter connexion, a series of articles appeared in Hungary Herald under the titles "To understand China", on 25 January, and "Should all flowers blossom?", on 15 February, in which the author, who has visited China, endeavours to explain the complete unity between the political concepts of the Chinese Republic and the USSR. In order to prove this fact, the author has to explain the short hesitation that took place in Chinese thinking right after the Hungarian uprising:

"Here we have the opportunity to dispel a misunderstanding which was considerably widespread in Hungary also in the summer of 1957 in connection with the slogan: 'Let all flowers blossom'. When the Chinese party issued this slogan it did not by any means have the opening of doors to liberalism in a European sense in mind. On the contrary, its aim was to bring lurking hostile views to light and to force them to open struggle. The actual reason for the 'Let all flowers blossom' movement was and still is to enable the masses to differentiate between flowers and weeds."

C. Relations inside Hungary

The periodical Hungary Herald, published in Vienna, on 6 February carried a new item according to which a clash took place between Soviet leaders and Hungarian peasants in County Hajdu in eastern Hungary. The periodical reported that two Hungarian peasants had been killed and fifteen others seriously wounded. The Hungarian news agency, on 6 February, denied the veracity of this statement.

A number of manifestations of Soviet-Hungarian friendship have taken place in recent months. Soviet Armed Forces Day was celebrated by officials on 23 February; a Soviet film festival opened on 11 February in Budapest with a gala performance; the 11th anniversary of the Hungarian-Soviet friendship treaty was celebrated on 17 February and opened Hungarian-Soviet Friendship Month.