

Hungary 1956-1959 - correspondence, resolutions, General Assembly and Secur...

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Dag Hammar skjöld's saml.

Hungary - 1956

7 Dec.

Gen. Assembly: Note by the Sec. Gen.

with Annex 1-4.



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Agenda item 67

QUESTION CONSIDERED BY THE SECOND EMERGENCY SPECIAL SESSION
OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FROM 4 TO 10 NOVEMBER 1956

Note by the Secretary-General

The General Assembly, in a resolution adopted 5 December 1956, reiterated "its call upon the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Hungarian authorities" to comply with previous resolutions on the situation in Hungary and to permit United Nations observers to enter the territory of Hungary, to travel freely therein, and to report their findings to the Secretary-General. In the same resolution the General Assembly requested that the consent to receive United Nations observers be communicated to the Secretary-General not later than 7 December 1956.

Immediately on the adoption of the said resolution, I transmitted the text of the resolution to the representatives of the two countries directly concerned. I further addressed to them letters, drawing attention to the special request mentioned above and to my need to receive their replies at the latest on 7 December. At the time of the writing of this report (6 p.m., 7 December) I have not received any replies.

In the said resolution, 5 December, the General Assembly also recommended that I arrange for the immediate dispatch to Hungary and other countries as appropriate, of observers, named by me pursuant to paragraph 4 of resolution 1004 (ES II). The General Assembly requested all Member Governments to co-operate by extending such assistance and providing such facilities as might be necessary for the effective discharge of the responsibilities of the observers.

In pursuance of this recommendation I addressed at once letters to the Permanent Representatives of Austria, Czechoslovakia, Romania and Yugoslavia,

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wherein, with reference to the two last mentioned paragraphs in the resolution, 5 December, I asked for information whether observers, named by me, would be permitted to enter the countries in question for the purpose prescribed, in case it would be indicated that such a visit would be useful for their work under the terms of reference established by resolution 1004 (ES II). Pending replies to these questions, I have not been able to arrange for the dispatch of any observers to the region.

As the Assembly is aware, the Government of Hungary, 3 December, stated that it was ready to welcome the Secretary-General in Budapest "at a later date appropriate to both parties". In response, 4 December, I suggested that I could be in Budapest on 16 December. I have not received any official reaction to this suggestion. If the visit cannot be made at the time proposed, it may be questioned whether it would be to the purpose.



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Note by the Secretary-General

ANNEX

Letter dated 8 December 1956 from the Permanent Representative of Austria
to the United Nations, addressed to the Secretary-General

New York, 8 December 1956

With reference to your letter of 5 December 1956 and resolution A/RES/413, adopted by the General Assembly on 4 December 1956, especially operative paragraphs 3 and 4, and in accordance with instructions received from my Government, I have the honour to inform you that the Austrian Government would permit observers named by you to enter Austria. This permission is given as a consequence of Austria's United Nations membership and the provisions of Article 2, paragraph 5, of the Charter.

The Austrian Government feels that United Nations observers would also be in a position to verify on the spot the situation of the refugees and the incorrectness of some reports concerning the conditions of refugees in Austria.

(Signed) F. MATSCH



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Note by the Secretary-General

ANNEX 2

Letter dated 8 December 1956 from the Permanent Representative of
Yugoslavia to the United Nations, addressed to the Secretary-General

New York, 8 December 1956

I have the honour to refer to your letter of 5 December 1956 relating to the implementation of General Assembly resolution A/RES/413 on the situation in Hungary, and especially to operative paragraphs 3 and 4 which provide for the immediate dispatch of observers to Hungary and "to other countries as appropriate".

The contents of Your Excellency's letter have been brought to the attention of my Government which has instructed me to inform you of the following:

As a matter of principle, the Government of the Federal People's Republic of Yugoslavia is opposed to observers being sent to one country for the purpose of watching developments in another country, as this would, in its view, establish a most dangerous precedent. In this particular case, the dispatch of observers to the countries neighbouring Hungary would be liable to extend the area of tension and thus aggravate the situation still further. The practical value of any such observers would, to say the least, be extremely doubtful.

For these reasons, my Government regrets it is unable to receive the observers referred to in Your Excellency's letter.

(Signed) Joza BRILEJ
Permanent Representative of the F.P.R. of
Yugoslavia to the United Nations

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Note by the Secretary-General

ANNEX 3

Letter dated 9 December 1956 from the Permanent Representative of
Czechoslovakia to the United Nations, addressed to the
Secretary-General

New York, 9 December 1956

I acknowledge receipt of your letter of 5 December 1956 and I have the honour to communicate the following:

The position of Czechoslovakia regarding the sending of observers into Hungary and neighbouring countries under resolution 1004 ES (II) has been expressed in the statements made by the head of the Czechoslovak delegation, Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr. Václav David, during the discussion on this question in the General Assembly.

In conformity with this position I have the honour to communicate that the Government of the Czechoslovak Republic could not give its consent to the entry of observers, mentioned in your letter, into the territory of Czechoslovakia.

(Signed) J. ULLRICH



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QUESTION EXAMINEE PAR L'ASSEMBLEE GENERALE A SA
DEUXIEME SESSION EXTRAORDINAIRE D'URGENCE, DU
4 AU 10 NOVEMBRE 1956

Note du Secrétaire général

ANNEXE 4

Lettre en date du 10 décembre 1956 adressée au Secrétaire général par
le représentant permanent de la Roumanie auprès des Nations Unies

New-York, le 10 décembre 1956

Me référant à votre lettre du 5 décembre courant, j'ai l'honneur de vous
communiquer ce qui suit :

"Le Gouvernement de la République populaire roumaine considère que l'envoi
d'observateurs de l'Organisation des Nations Unies dans les pays voisins de la
Hongrie ne correspond pas aux prévisions de la Charte des Nations Unies.

"Intéressé à la normalisation de la vie en Hongrie, pays voisin et ami, et
considérant que ceci est dans l'intérêt de la paix et de la sécurité en Europe et
conforme aux droits souverains des Etats, le Gouvernement roumain ne saurait
accepter des observateurs de l'Organisation des Nations Unies sur le territoire
de la République populaire roumaine."

Le représentant permanent de la
République populaire roumaine
auprès de l'Organisation des
Nations Unies

Signé : A. JOJA
