

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

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Text of letter to the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Hungary approved by the Special Committee on the Problem of Hungary at its 72nd meeting on Friday, 20 Dec.



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LETTER DATED 20 DECEMBER 1957 FROM THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE  
ON THE PROBLEM OF HUNGARY TO THE MINISTER FOR FOREIGN  
AFFAIRS OF HUNGARIAN PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC

Text of letter to the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Hungarian  
People's Republic approved by the Special Committee on the Problem  
of Hungary at its 72nd meeting on Friday, 20 December 1957 1/

"Sir,

In accordance with its terms of reference in General Assembly resolution 1132 (XI) of 10 January 1957, the Special Committee on the Problem of Hungary has met on two occasions this week to examine certain aspects of the situation in Hungary.

At these meetings, members of the Special Committee have had occasion to consider the treatment accorded by the Government of Hungary to those who participated in the resistance of the population of Hungary to the intervention of Soviet armed forces, as related in the Report of the Committee submitted to the General Assembly. The Committee noted with deep and special concern the reports of trials said to be at present proceeding in Hungary of General Pal Maleter, of General Istvan Kovacs, and of Colonel Sandor Kopacsy. Other reports have related to the trial of significant personalities such as former members of the Revolutionary Council of the City of Győr and Roman Catholic priests for their participation in the uprising. The condemnation to death, and execution of, Major Antal Palinkas-Pallavicini is understood to have been definitely announced by the Hungarian Telegraph Agency on 12 December 1957.

The Committee is well aware that certain of the reports relating to these matters are subject to confirmation, and the Committee would not wish, especially in view of the statement issued on behalf of the Government of Hungary on 17 December 1957, to attach final credence to them. Nevertheless, it has reached the conclusion that the reports have a character which warrants an indication by

1/ This letter was returned by the Permanent Representative of the Hungarian People's Republic on 21 December 1957 with the following observation:

"As it was expressed many times, the establishment and the functioning of that Committee were not and are not recognized by the Hungarian Government, since the resolution which set up that Committee is contrary to the United Nations Charter. Consequently, the Hungarian Permanent Representative is not in a position to transmit communications and requests by that Committee."

the Committee to the Government of Hungary that it would be appreciative of precise information on these matters, which constitute an important element in the situation arising from the circumstances which the Special Committee on the Problem of Hungary is charged by the General Assembly to investigate.

A deep impression has been made on the members of the Committee by the persistent anxiety displayed throughout the world regarding the fate of men and women who played a part in the events of October to November 1956. This anxiety arises from humanitarian considerations and is shared by men and women of the most diverse political opinions. World opinion will continue to be disturbed until it is satisfied that the present authorities in Hungary are shaping their policy in this matter in accordance with the terms of the General Assembly resolution of 14 September 1957, which called upon Hungary 'to desist from repressive measures against the Hungarian people'.

On the occasion of their meeting, the members of the Committee wish to express their conviction that a significant contribution to the relaxation of international tension could be made by the Hungarian Government if it were to give the world reliable information on this subject, and to give an assurance that the highest humanitarian standards are being applied in the treatment of all who participated in the uprising.

Accept, Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Alsing Andersen  
Chairman

Special Committee on the Problem of Hungary"

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