

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

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Hungary - 1958

11 Feb.

Wadsworth, J. J. (Acting U.S. Representative  
to the U.N.)

- 1 letter to P. Mod (Perm. Represent.  
of Hungary to the U.N.)

United States Representative to the United Nations

February 11, 1958

Dear Mr. Ambassador:

It has no doubt been evident to your Mission from the debates and discussions which have taken place during the second emergency special session and the eleventh and twelfth sessions of the General Assembly that current developments in Hungary are being followed with deep concern throughout the world. Information which has been made known through official Hungarian news media concerning the continuing prosecution of persons who participated in the popular uprising of October and November 1956 has occasioned widespread anxiety. It had been hoped that the Hungarian authorities would heed the repeated calls by the UN for a cessation of repressive measures against the Hungarian people and implement an amnesty which would make normal life possible for those who are being held or who are threatened with possible arrest for having supported what was clearly a national manifestation. Such a hope now appears illusory in the light of the unequivocal statement of Mr. Kadar before the Hungarian Parliament on January 27, 1958, rejecting any thought of such an amnesty. Under these circumstances persistent reports of further unannounced trials, imprisonments, and executions inevitably gain credence.

On December 17, 1957, your Mission issued a press release in which it stated that if the United States Representative were "really interested in ascertaining what was happening in Hungary", he had "the opportunity to ask for authentic information through the proper channels". In view of the worldwide concern over the situation in Hungary -- a concern which is shared by the American people -- I have decided to take advantage of this suggestion and ask you the following questions.

1. What are the present circumstances of Major General Pal Valter, Major General Istvan Kovacs and Colonel Miklos Szucs, all of whom were members of the Hungarian Delegation appointed by the Hungarian Government in November 1956 to negotiate with a Soviet Delegation on the question of the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Hungary?

2. What are the present circumstances of the following individuals and their families who, upon relinquishing asylum in the Yugoslav Embassy in Budapest, were apprehended by Soviet military authorities: Imre Nagy, Geza Losonczy, Loltan Saanto, Ferenc Donath, I. Tanczos, Sander Harszti,

His Excellency

Mr. Peter Nod,

Permanent Representative of Hungary

to the United Nations,

10 East 75th Street,

New York 21, New York

Ferenc Janosi, Gyorgy Fazekas, Jozsef Szilagyi, Peter Erdos, Zoltan Vas, Julia Rajk, Ferenc Nador, Szilard Ujhelyi and Miklos Vasarhelyi?

3. What are the present circumstances of Sandor Kopácsi, formerly chief of the Budapest Police?

4. What are the present circumstances of Dominik Kosary, a former professor of history at Budapest University who is well known in the United States through his history of Hungary which was published here?

5. What are the present circumstances of Istvan Hibo, Minister of State in the Hungarian Government announced November 3, 1956?

These questions pertain only to a small number of individuals whose fate is being followed with particular interest because of their prominence or the circumstances connected with their disappearance from public life. It is my sincere belief, however, that a forthright and full reply to these questions would help not only to clarify the current situation in Hungary but also to afford millions of interested people throughout the world a clearer understanding of the present intentions of the Hungarian authorities.

Sincerely yours,

James J. Wadsworth  
Acting United States Representative  
to the United Nations