

The continuing obstructive attitude of the Soviet and Kadar Governments, as exemplified by Budapest's rejection of the Secretary-General's offer to visit Hungary, led to a strong protest from the United States Delegation and to the introduction on December 10 of a further resolution (see below) which gained the sponsorship of 20 member countries. India, together with Burma, Ceylon, and Indonesia, introduced an alternative resolution less condemnatory in tone which suggested that the Secretary-General might pursue his inquiries in Moscow. A brief resolution to give the Secretary-General discretionary authority to deal with the problem was introduced by Austria.

Debate on the Hungarian question continued in the General Assembly and with few exceptions the delegates roundly condemned the U.S.S.R. for its repressive action in Hungary. The Indian Delegate, Mr. Krishna Menon, while acknowledging that the Hungarian people wanted Soviet forces to withdraw completely from their country, supported conciliation rather than condemnation. The Kadar Government's delegate did not vote since he had withdrawn from Assembly discussions of the Hungarian issue as a gesture of protest over UN "interference". On December 12, the 20-power resolution, with an Austrian amendment, was adopted by a vote of 55 in favour, (including Canada) 8 against and 13 abstentions (the Arab states, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Yugoslavia and Finland). As revised, the resolution recommended that the Secretary-General "take any initiative that he deems helpful in relation to the Hungarian problem in conformity with the principles of the Charter and the resolutions of the General Assembly". In view of the vote and the amendment, the Indian and Austrian draft resolutions were withdrawn.

During the first week in January, Philippe deSeynes, United Nations Under-Secretary, was permitted to visit Hungary, accompanied by a three-man team of experts on agricultural and industrial matters. The visit was made without fanfare to discuss only relief and economic problems—not politics—with Hungarian officials.

On January 5, the Secretary-General submitted a further report on the Hungarian situation to the General Assembly. He pointed out that the observers selected by him, Messrs. Gundersen, Lall and Lleras, had been able to collect "only a fringe of material" on the Hungarian uprising because of the lack of co-operation of the governments directly concerned. Mr. Hammarskjold suggested that the Assembly might wish to establish an ad hoc investigating committee to take over the functions of the three observers and "serve as an organ of the General Assembly for continued observation of developments in relation to Hungary".

New Resolution

As a sequel to the Secretary-General's report, a new United States resolution was introduced in the Assembly, co-sponsored by 24 member states including the United Kingdom, France and Canada. The resolution provided for a Special Committee composed of the representatives of Australia, Ceylon, Denmark, Tunisia and Uruguay, "to investigate and to establish and maintain