

STATEMENTS AND SPEECHES

INFORMATION DIVISION
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SOVIET COMPLAINT OF UNITED STATES INTERFERENCE IN EASTERN EUROPE

Statement by Mr. J.W. Holmes in the Special Political Committee of the United Nations General Assembly, New York, on February 27, 1957.

My intervention will be brief. It does not seem to my Delegation necessary to waste the Committee's time in refuting allegations which no one can be expected to take very seriously, and which have already been rejected with force and dignity by the Representative of the United States. I wish to go on the record merely to avoid any possibility that our silence would be misinterpreted. The charges made by the Soviet Delegation make no sense at all to those of us who know the United States as we do, and the efforts it is making to give leadership in the maintenance and extension of freedom and self-government in the world.

The most depressing aspect of this debate is that the Soviet Delegation proposed it at all. It is difficult to understand why they did so, in view of its own record of subversive interference in the affairs of every other state, including my own. This revival of the stale tactics of former times is hardly in harmony with policies proclaimed in other contexts. The Soviet Union is appealing to us all to believe in the sincerity of its programme for disarmament and to collaborate in peaceful doctrines of non-intervention in the Middle East. Nothing would make us happier than to accept with confidence Soviet good intentions because we know how difficult it would be to solve the major problems which now face us without Soviet co-operation. Does the Soviet Delegation really think that it can win our confidence while it indulges in these silly and discredited efforts to tell us that black is white?

We quite understand the anxiety of the Soviet Government to recover its balance after the events of last autumn. If they hope to do so by trying to prove to the world that the policy of the United States is as malevolent as that of their own, we advise them to abandon this hopeless gambit. Our Delegation is quite unimpressed by the charges concocted and edited by