

government in Hungary to permit entry of United Nations observers, the Assembly recommended on December 13, 1956, that the Secretary-General "take any initiative he deems helpful in relation to the Hungarian problem".

Since 1957 the General Assembly has given a mandate to successive special representatives to examine the situation and to report periodically to the Assembly. At the seventeenth session the item was allocated for the first time to the Special Political Committee. The brief debate was preceded by a statement from the current United Nations representative on Hungary, Sir Leslie Munro, whose fourth report was before the Committee.

The United States introduced a draft resolution reaffirming the objectives of previous resolutions. It noted the Assembly's continued concern that neither the Soviet Union nor Hungary "had given to the United Nations representative on Hungary the co-operation necessary for the full discharge of his responsibilities". "In the circumstances" it provided for the termination of his mandate, and requested, instead, that the Secretary-General "take any initiative that he deems helpful".

The Assembly approved this Resolution [1857 (XVII)] by 50 votes in favour to 13 against, with 43 abstentions. Canada supported it, as it had supported all previous resolutions, as the best practicable method of expressing the continuing concern of the United Nations for the plight of the Hungarian people.