

But from the very beginning of these events the ominous shadow of the Red Army was cast over Hungary. Soviet troops and tanks moved across the frontier in even greater numbers. In spite of a Soviet pretense of willingness to negotiate with Premier Nagy for the withdrawal of all Soviet forces, at about midnight on November 3, we read in the report, General Serov, Head of Soviet security forces, arrested the Hungarian negotiators, and Soviet tanks moved forward into the streets of Budapest. What followed was a ruthless and brutal attack on the people of Hungary. A great power, the U.S.S.R., sent its armed forces to crush and destroy a popular movement for freedom in a small neighbouring country. On the basis of this terrible intervention a new régime was installed in Budapest. The Hungarian nation has been reduced to the status of a colony of the U.S.S.R..

The draft resolution, of which Canada is a co-sponsor, and which I am certain will be approved by a very large majority, is not a negative, destructive or propagandist document. It is a realistic document. It indicates clearly the essential responsibility of the U.S.S.R. for what has happened and is happening in this part of Eastern Europe. It does not envisage any action which is not in accord with the legitimate national interests of the U.S.S.R.

The sponsors have not sought in this resolution to do anything to intensify discord between rival power groups. But the Assembly cannot fail to condemn continued refusal to comply with its resolutions, nor can it fail to condemn the flagrant and cruel disregard of human rights which members of the United Nations pledge themselves to uphold. We endorse the conclusions in the Committee's report. In proposing that a special representative of the General Assembly should be nominated to take such steps as he deems appropriate to achieve the objectives of the United Nations we are seeking to emphasize a constructive and forward looking approach to this difficult question. We can think of no one more suitable to carry this responsibility than the distinguished president of this Assembly.

The Soviet Union is one of the great powers of the world. It has a special position in the United Nations as one of the permanent members of the Security Council which I suggest entails special responsibilities. In advancing and supporting this resolution, it is our hope that it will help to induce the U.S.S.R., one of the most important members of our organization, to take steps to permit a moderate and reasonable adjustment of the situation in Hungary, so that the legitimate aspirations of the Hungarian people for independence and sovereignty may be met. Justice for Hungary must be a continuing concern of the United Nations.