

bility with other Departments (except that the FAO request was passed to the Departments of Trade and Commerce and Agriculture for any action which they might wish to take and no reply or comments have yet been received). There would seem to be several distinct advantages in such assistance if a further contribution is to be made. After examining de Seynes' report and taking into account those political facts which come immediately to mind, we would suggest that Canadian flour might be the most appropriate form for such a gift to take since the distribution in Hungary would be much easier and less subject to political obstruction, since the timing of Hungarian requirements would more easily permit a gift of flour than most others, since its source would be more likely to be known than in the case of most other products, and since such aid would contribute much to relief of distress but would do little rehabilitate the Kadar régime.

While the latest telegram from the NATO Delegation shows that the difference of opinion between the French and other representatives is less pronounced than had earlier seemed the case, there may be some continued pressure for a more liberal attitude towards Hungary. There are of course additional considerations which we will continue to examine and report to you if it seems advisable; in the meantime you may wish to give some thought to the problem of Canadian relief for Hungary and to advise us whether a contribution along the lines described should be investigated.

J. L[ÉGER]

I don't think we should take any lead at this time in providing any type of assistance to Hungary.³¹ This problem is complicated by the heavy financial burden of the Government in the field of immigration.³²

52.

DEA/12476-40

*Le secrétaire d'État aux Affaires extérieures
au représentant permanent auprès du Conseil de l'Atlantique Nord*

*Secretary of State for External Affairs
to Permanent Representative to North Atlantic Council*

TELEGRAM E-229

Ottawa, February 12, 1957

CONFIDENTIAL. IMMEDIATE.

Reference: Our S-35, January 18, Canac telegram 202, February 6,† Candel New York Telegram 514, February 8,† and others.

Repeat Candel New York (Immediate), Permis Geneva, Washington, Paris, London (Important).

By Bag Vienna, Belgrade, Moscow, Warsaw, Prague, Bonn, Brussels, Hague, Berne, Oslo, Stockholm, Copenhagen, Rome.

RELIEF FOR HUNGARY

The question of relief for Hungary has been considered at some length and the conclusion reached that no further action on the part of the Canadian government is warranted at this time. This decision has been influenced both by the extent of government assistance for Hungarians, mainly refugees, already provided — over \$10 million to which must be

³¹ Note marginale :/Marginal note:

Nor do I! L.B. P[earson]

³² Léger a ajouté ce paragraphe à la main./Léger added this paragraph by hand.