

Hungary

The Hungarian uprising of October 1956 was discussed at length at the eleventh session of the General Assembly. A special Committee was established to investigate the situation. The Committee's report, which was unanimous, was published on June 20, 1957, and fully confirmed the Western view of the Soviet intervention in Hungary. The report was considered at the resumed eleventh session of the Assembly in September 1957 which adopted a resolution (1133 (XI)) co-sponsored by 36 nations, including Canada, condemning the Soviet Union for its action in Hungary and calling upon the Soviet and Hungarian Governments to desist from oppressive measures. It further requested Prince Wan of the Thailand to act as Special Representative of the General Assembly to make recommendations concerning the situation in Hungary.

There was a brief and inconclusive discussion of the Hungarian question during the Assembly's twelfth session. Prince Wan's efforts to carry out his mandate had been completely unsuccessful and he finally reported that he had "not been able to find an opportunity for negotiations". As no resolution was proposed, resolution 1133 (XI) remained in effect and Prince Wan's mandate continued.

On June 17, 1958, the Hungarian News Agency announced the execution of Mr. Imre Nagy, General Maleter and two associates of Nagy who, despite a pledge of safe-conduct, had been abducted eighteen months earlier. The Special Committee was speedily reconvened and on July 14 issued a supplementary report summarizing information given in the Hungarian press on repressive activities of the Hungarian Government culminating in the execution of Nagy.

In December 1958 the Hungarian question was considered at the thirteenth session of the General Assembly. (agenda item 69). A resolution (1312 (XIII)), co-sponsored by 37 nations, including Canada, expressed the General Assembly's thanks to Prince Wan and to the Special Committee, deplored the continuing repression in Hungary and the continued refusal of the Soviet and Hungarian Governments to co-operate with the Special Committee, denounced the execution of Mr. Nagy and others, declared that the United Nations continues to be seized of the situation in Hungary and appointed Sir Leslie Munro as the United Nations Representative to report on the Hungarian question. The resolution, which was supported in the debate by the Canadian Representative, was adopted by 54 votes in favour, 10 against (the Soviet bloc and Yugoslavia) with 15 abstentions (Saudi Arabia, Sudan, United Arab Republic, Afghanistan, Ceylon, Ethiopia, Finland, Ghana, Greece, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco).

Chinese Representation

The issue of Chinese representation was brought up once again at the thirteenth session of the General Assembly against the background of the crisis in the Formosa Straits. As in recent years the issue was dealt with by means of a procedural motion designed to postpone consideration of the problem for the duration of the session. It has not been dealt with as a substantive measure since 1950, when an Indian motion to replace Nationalist Chinese with Communist Chinese Representatives was heavily defeated.