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QUESTION CONSIDERED BY THE SECOND EMERGENCY SPECIAL SESSION
OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FROM 4 TO 10 NOVEMBER 1956

Note verbale dated 19 November 1956 from the Permanent Mission
of Hungary to the United Nations, addressed to the Secretary-General

New York, 19 November 1956

The Permanent Mission of the Hungarian People's Republic to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to transmit to him a copy of the communiqué of the Government of Hungary relating to the item on the agenda of the General Assembly meeting to be held on 19 November 1956, with the request that it be circulated within the shortest time possible, among the delegations to the General Assembly, as an official document of the United Nations.

Communiqué issued by the Revolutionary Workers'
and Peasants' Government of Hungary
on 18 November 1956

During these last few days, hostile elements have been alarming public opinion and trying to create panic by circulating various provocative rumours which do not correspond to reality. Among others, they are circulating rumours that mass arrests are taking place in the country and that young people and other persons are being deported to the Soviet Union.

In connexion with these false rumours the Government considers it necessary to inform the population of the following:

The defence of the interests of the working people nowadays imposes upon the authorities the vital duty of searching for and rendering harmless counter-revolutionaries, terrorists, antisocial instigators and armed bandits who appear from time to time at places of work and prevent, by means of threats and terror, the working people from resuming and continuing their work. Similarly, our authorities are instructed to render harmless the still considerable number of thieves, bandits and other common criminals who still commit outrages, prevent the restoration of law and order in the country, and threaten public order and safety.

"In order to carry out this task in full measure in the shortest possible time, our authorities and military units charged with the maintenance of order are compelled to make arrests.

"The panic rumours about the deportation of persons arrested to the Soviet Union constitute a provocation invented by counter-revolutionary circles who are becoming more and more impotent and powerless. In reality no one of the persons arrested has been deported from the territory of Hungary. The aim of these provocative, false rumours is to create distrust in the Government, to disturb the tranquility of the population, and to create obstacles in production on the one hand, and to try in such a way to undermine relations between the population and Soviet army units, on the other.

"In connexion with the arrests, it should be pointed out also that the cases of all arrested persons are being thoroughly examined. If it is established that the person concerned did not commit a capital offence and did not carry out activities dangerous to society, the person is being released from prison without delay.

"If it is established in the course of investigations of the person held in custody that he has committed a capital offence, this person is being handed over to the competent Hungarian prosecution or court for the purpose of legal proceedings.

"The Government calls upon the population not to give credit to the false and panic rumours which are provocations, not to believe their propagators, and firmly to oppose them, resorting to the help of the authorities whenever necessary."
