

Hungary Accepting 'New' Communism

EDITOR'S NOTE: On Oct. 23, 1956, thousands of Hungarians poured into the streets of Budapest in a revolt against the Communist regime. Associated Press correspondent Anthony Pearce analyzes conditions five years after Soviet tanks crushed the rebellion.

By ANTHONY PEARCE
BUDAPEST, Hungary (AP)—Five years after the Hungarian people rose in a brave but futile revolt, the Communist government and the governed live in a form of coexistence with a widening give-and-take on both sides. Gone for now is the unrelentingly brutal Stalin-type communism that brought on the revolt Oct. 23, 1956. In its place is the so-called liberal brand espoused by Soviet Premier Khrushchev and practiced by Hungarian Premier Janos Kadar. Materially, morally and culturally, it is somewhat more acceptable to the proud Hungarians.

The Hungarian authorities are aware that the international Communist movement cannot afford another such uprising. And the people realize there is no workable alternative to communism in

Hungary as the world now is constituted. In the five years since Soviet tanks put down the rebellion the Red regime has taken the edge off the people's frustrations and the people are in a mood for what can best be described as "Iron Curtain normality."

The ruthless and virtually unimpaired political force have had their wings clipped. Their uniform, a symbol of dread and hate to the people, has been abolished. The apparatus of internal security is still there, and its aim is the same, but it works at a distance and is more discreet.

The party maintains that "Socialist legality" flagrantly flouted before 1956, has been restored. This seems to mean that torture, secret trails and executions no longer are tolerated. Many of those jailed in the 1956 revolt have been released. But from 900 to 1,200 still are believed to be behind bars.

The public worship of God, once a hazardous undertaking, now is widely practiced throughout this largely Roman Catholic country. There is little evidence of police interference. But the regime is

no less dedicated to establishing an atheistic society.

Athletic campaigns recently were launched in a number of schools, and there is evidence of a new assault on parish priests, the backbone of Catholic resistance to communism in Hungary since Josef Cardinal Mindszenty took refuge in the U.S. legation in Budapest in 1956. He still is there—a virtual exile.

Kadar's "new look" communism has made a number of concessions to the people's material and cultural wants.

There is a reasonable supply of consumer goods and a sufficiency of good food. New restaurants, cafes and bars cater to the gregarious Hungarian, never one for sitting home nights. Bright lights and new buildings have covered the scars of battle.

"Socialistic realism"—depicting man in the process of building socialism—is still the keynote for all artists and writers, but they now are given more opportunity to breathe real life into it.

In the countryside, the regime has collectivized 90 per cent of the arable land without much re-

distance from the 1.25 million peasants affected. But there were concessions, too.

Keeping alive—for the present—the idea of private property, the regime pays a nominal rent for the land and the peasant can retain small plots to produce crops to sell on the open market.

There also have been changes in the Communist hierarchy. Hungary is firmly tied with the Soviet bloc, but there has been a growing realization among the country's rulers that Hungary has a lot to gain by seeking closer links with the West. Feelers constantly are out, probing for increased trade, for cultural and scientific exchanges, for tourists.

But the liberalization has its limits. One obvious symbol is Hungary's border with neutral

Austria, the steep cross following the 1956 revolt. It is an almost impenetrable wall of barbed wire, watch towers and mine fields.

There still are 40,000 Soviet troops in Hungary, a fact highly irksome to the population.

If Kadar could negotiate for a Soviet troop withdrawal, his regime would move some way toward winning more confidence from the people.

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BEGIN BERLIN MANEUVERS—Soldiers and trucks of the U. S. garrison move along West Berlin street to begin a three-day test of combat readiness. About 3,000 of the divided city's 6,500-man U. S. garrison are taking part in the major Fall exercise. In Grunewald forest in the American sector southwest of the city proper.

Propaganda Value of the Berlin Wall

By WILLIAM L. RYAN
Associated Press News Analyst
BERLIN (AP)—There are a number of mysteries centering on the grim wall of concrete and barbed wire dividing Berlin.

There is evidence that the West had forewarning of the Communist intention to build the wall. That would make the lack of Western reaction or counteraction seem all the more strange.

Now that the wall is built, there seems to be little effort by the West, outside of West Germany itself, to exploit its potentially enormous propagandist impact on the rest of the world.

The indications are that the wall was the idea of Soviet Premier Khrushchev himself, and that he long ago let his intentions be known in the West. This probably would mean that Khrushchev was probing, trying to gauge just how much steel there might be in the Western wall to resist.

Ever since the Cuban invasion fiasco of last spring, diplomatic sources report, Khrushchev has entertained the notion that the United States is weak and irresolute. He has said as much to visitors. The wall probably was

an experiment, perhaps a gamble, to test the validity of that notion.

Highly reliable sources here report it now is established that on Aug. 13, when construction of the wall was begun, the East German people's police—the Vopos—at the sector border had no ammunition in their guns. The idea would be to avert a dangerous clash, should the Americans and their allies react swiftly and determinedly to prevent construction of the wall.

Peasant refugees who were among the last to escape to the West before the wall was built brought with them the report that it was to go up. They even had the exact date.

The Communists began the job slowly, cautiously, then waited a couple of days for something to happen. Nothing did, and they went ahead with their program to turn East Berlin into a huge concrete cage.

Among the Communists' purposes were these: They wanted to cut off all contact between East and West Berliners; they wanted to impress upon the world that East Berlin was the capital of a sovereign East Germany; they

wanted to stop the flow of refugees; they wanted to make it less difficult to run a disciplined police state.

They got away with it. It was a major coup for Khrushchev. Indeed, it may have been so important a victory for his ideas and his policies that it affected the proceedings at the 22nd Communist congress in Moscow. There Khrushchev's hand appeared to have been emboldened to throw the book at his foes within the Soviet and the world party leadership.

As for the potential Western propaganda value of the wall, now that it exists, that is self-evident to the visitor.

The West Berlin and West German governments have arranged trips to the wall for visitors. The impact has been remarkable. Visitors from India, for example, were seen bursting into tears upon contemplating the ugliness of the wall.

Heart-wrenching sounds and sights can be encountered. An East Berlin woman, for instance, looks skyward and shouts across the barbed wire: "Look at the

birds. They can go over there. I can't."

Once there was even a wedding at the wall. The bride and groom were on one side, many of the relatives on the other. All were weeping.

Many a West Berliner says he would like to see people by the thousands brought to Berlin—students, impatient young men from Latin America, from Asia, from Africa. They could hardly miss the impact.

And, say the West Berliners, if those young men had any notions of embracing Soviet-type communism, one sight of the wall likely would cure them. The message they would take home could be the most effective propaganda against Sovietism yet devised.

Neverett Buys Ayrshire

H. L. Neverett & Sons of Chazy recently made an initial purchase of a registered Ayrshire cow from Dennis W. Parow, Gouverneur, according to the Ayrshire Breeders' Association Secretary David Gibson Jr., of Brandon, Vt.

Rockefeller Invites Nations To World Fair

ALBANY, N. Y. (AP)—Gov. Rockefeller has invited 93 nations to participate in the 1962 U.S. World Trade Fair in New York City next May.

The governor's office said Sunday invitations also were being sent to Soviet Russia and Eastern European countries.

The fair, sponsored by the New York City Department of Commerce and Public Events, "is the outstanding established and centralized marketplace in the Western Hemisphere for the mass sale of goods and services from all countries' producers," Rockefeller said.

The fair will be held May 11-22 in the New York Coliseum.

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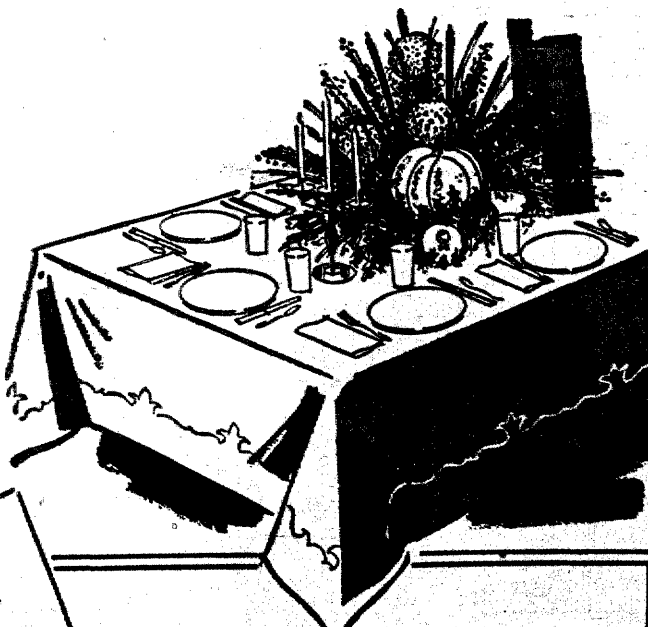
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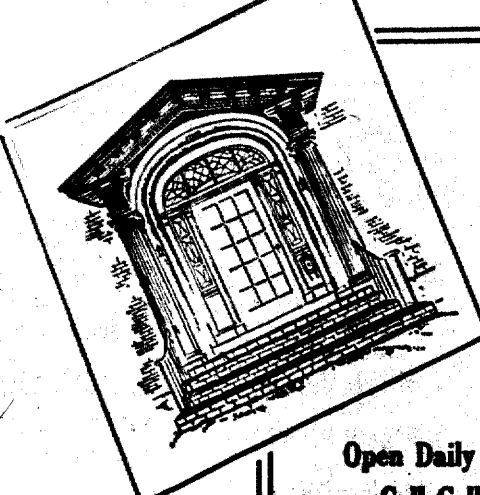
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