

6th November 1956

The Tragedy of Hungary

Hungary: As the torch of freedom is blotted out by the black shadow of Soviet domination, we salute those brave patriots who, but a few short days ~~ago~~ <sup>PREVIOUSLY</sup>, were celebrating their hard-won struggle for liberty.

These scenes in Budapest followed the promise that Russian troops would leave the country.

~~The~~ Swift on the impromptu victory march (using captured tanks) came the work of rehabilitation. And brave little Hungary began the gigantic task of clearing a shattered capital - ready to face the future and a new way of life.

Besides her streets, Hungary cleansed her country of tainted symbols... Russian flags were burned - and Communist literature destroyed.

From public buildings, the hated Red Star was torn down - Hungary faced a new dawn of freedom.

But, all too soon, those hopes were crushed by the return of massed Soviet armour. With quiet resolve, the Hungarian soldier-citizens <sup>bravely</sup> took up positions. This, they knew, would be a battle to the death. As Soviet tanks ringed the principal towns and cities - the brave patriots fought on - armed with little more than their courage and the will to be free.

In Budapest, a grim house-to-house battle developed. But the gallant spirit of Hungary's freedom-fighters won support throughout the world. At the United Nations, (where the Soviet action was condemned) and by anti-Communist demonstrations in many countries.

As the unequal battle dragged on - the Hungarians suffered ~~heavy~~ <sup>HEAVY</sup> casualties....yet still they fought on. And with the last poignant messages from radio stations - calling for help - the Voice of Freedom was silenced in Hungary.

Meanwhile, (before Soviet troops sealed the borders and the Iron Curtain shrouded the last hours of a dying Nation), pathetic bands of refugees streamed into Austria. Mostly women and children, many of the youngsters bore messages from their parents - telling that they were staying behind to fight on....for Hungary.

The Tragedy of Hungary (continued)

To-day, the free world sorrows for Hungary. ~~Which~~ And, in Munich, a wreath, attached to a raft, is dropped into the <sup>River</sup> Isar. One day, it will float down the Danube to Budapest - and gallant ~~people will know that they are not forgotten.~~

HUNGARIANS WILL UNDERSTAND ITS SILENT MESSAGE.