GB 2395

New York: Seventy nine countries were represenßed at the United Nations General Assembly - a world tribunal sitting in judgment on a Member State.

Outside the building, Hungarian pickets echoed the General Assembly's strongest condemnation of the Soviet Union, for depriving Hungary of her liberty and independence - and calling for the withdrawal of Russian troops.

Meanwhile, Hungary's tragic plight has moved a neighbouring Communist state, Rumania, into sending welfare-supplies across the border. For, with Hungarian workers continuing passive resistance, general strikes have limited the transport of food into town and city. Moving in the opposite direction, a constant stream of HUNGARIAN refugees makes for the Austrian border. Only now, (to evade Soviet patrols) the long trek is made by night.

Often, whole families split up to lessen the risk of capture, and many are the tearful, yet happy reunions - under the shelter of the welcoming flag.

In this unhappy chapter, no praise is too high for the conduct of the Austrian border-police. On this occasion, (hearing that refugees intended swimming the swiftly-flowing river), they ferried them across in rubber boats.

There is no doubt that many children owe their lives to the courage of the border-police - despite the menace of ruthless Soviet troops.

To these people - who have known so much suffering, small mercies bring untold joy. The reunion with a loved one - after days of worry. The kind gesture, the helping hand - when the spirit has been broken by days of privation and fear...

And chiefly, the haven of rest - where they can replenish their fortitude to face a new way of life...

U.N. Condemn Soviet ~~agg~~ Suppression

But for other Hungarians - family ties compel their return home - as
members of the nation's Olympic team leave Melbourne, ~~on the first stage of their~~

~~journey~~

At the airport, Australian-born Hungarians bade farewell to a gallant
team who were taking home nine gold medals and the heart-felt wishes of
fellow-athletes who had chosen to ~~remain behind~~ stay - FREE - in Australia.../