

2-204FO1
2-204FO1

56/91

SUPPORT FOR HUNGARY.

Throughout the world, feeling runs high over Russia's action in Hungary. In Paris, many thousands of people gather to honour the men and women who died in the Hungarian rising. Wreaths are carried up the Champs Elysees towards the Arc de Triomphe. The procession is led by a number of ex-presidents and premiers. Evidence of the unity of French political opinion on these tragic events.

At the Arc de Triomphe, the wreaths are laid by the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier - while the leaders of the nation look on.

But some of the demonstrators are not content to leave it at that; they make their way to the headquarters of the only French party which was not represented in the demonstration - The Communist party. The French communists, through their paper L'Humanite, have given full support to the Russian action. It was this which fired public anger. From upper floors, bottles are thrown at the attacking crowds - which only increases their fury.

Now the demonstrators have broken in, and are throwing papers and office furniture into the street for burning. And the police are in no hurry to intervene.

Membership lists, progaganda literature, chairs and desks - anything that will burn is added to the bonfire as the attackers make their way to the upper floor. Paris is a city of demonstrations, and Frenchmen are quick to make their feelings known but this outbreak is bigger than even Paris has seen for many years.

Suddenly the ground floor is ablaze, and the attackers draw back; it looks as though the whole building is doomed to destruction. So far, the police have made no more than a token protest; but now the burning headquarters are a danger to neighbouring houses, and police and firemen have to take action. Few Communists have dared to face the temper of this crowd, but before the rioting is over, 136 people are injured - one fatally.

Far away in the Kremlin, Marshal Zhukov and other Russian leaders continue with their plans, undeterred by foreign demonstration. Syrian delegates discuss with the Soviet Government how to step up arms supplies to Egypt. These supplies Britain reveals, have been continuing and spreading to other countries - a situation of very grave danger which Britain's action in Egypt may have forestalled by a matter of days.