

# SOVIET ATTACK HIT BY DAILY WORKER

## Hungarian Action Is Scored as Harmful to Socialism —Party Board Splits

By PETER KIHSS

The Daily Worker strongly criticized today the Soviet Union's use of force in Hungary.

The Communist newspaper here called editorially for an immediate meeting of the Big Four heads of government to discuss Eastern Europe and the Middle East.

The Worker editorial was written yesterday following a split in the national committee of the Communist party of the United States. A committee majority also decried use of Soviet troops in Hungary in a statement adopted last Thursday—before yesterday's attack by the Soviet forces.

The majority was understood to be made up of perhaps nine or ten members and alternates living in New York City, apparently including John Gates, Worker editor.

The only votes made known

were a "yes, with qualifications" by James Jackson and abstentions by Eugene Dennis, party general secretary, and Benjamin J. Davis, former City Councilman. William Z. Foster, national chairman, was absent.

### Had Welcomed Soviet Offer

The rapid twist of the Soviet line, however, seemed to have caused last Thursday's majority to have been too optimistic. Its statement had welcomed a Soviet declaration of last Tuesday promising to negotiate withdrawal of troops from Hungary, Poland and Rumania.

Today's front-paged Worker editorial is the publication's strongest criticism yet of any action by the post-Stalin Soviet leadership. Of the new fighting, it says:

"The action of the Soviet troops in Hungary does not advance but retards the development of socialism because socialism cannot be imposed on a country by force; it does not help but damages the relations between socialist states; it does not strengthen but weakens the influence of the Soviet Union itself which has been playing a major role toward ending the cold war and establishing peaceful coexistence. It does not combat but plays into the hands of the hypocritical reactionaries in

London, Paris and Washington as they drive to rob the peoples of the Middle East and elsewhere of their national independence."

Of the earlier situation, the Party's majority statement said the Hungarian Communist party's call for Soviet troops "to put down the popular demonstrations was a tragic error." It said the Soviet response "cannot be justified" by the Warsaw Pact.

Both Communist comments depict "reactionaries" as trying to exploit the strife in Hungary and Poland. The party declaration urged the United States to "put a stop to any interference in the internal affairs of these countries. \* \* \*"

"In response to the Soviet offer to withdraw its troops from Eastern Europe," the party statement said, "we urge our Government to join with the Soviet Union in a general agreement for prompt withdrawal of all foreign troops—including our own—from all European countries."

The Worker editorial hits at the British and French invasion of Egypt, expands the call for troop withdrawal to all countries, and favors independence for Cypriots, Egyptians, Israeli, Kenyans and Okinawans as well as Hungarians.

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