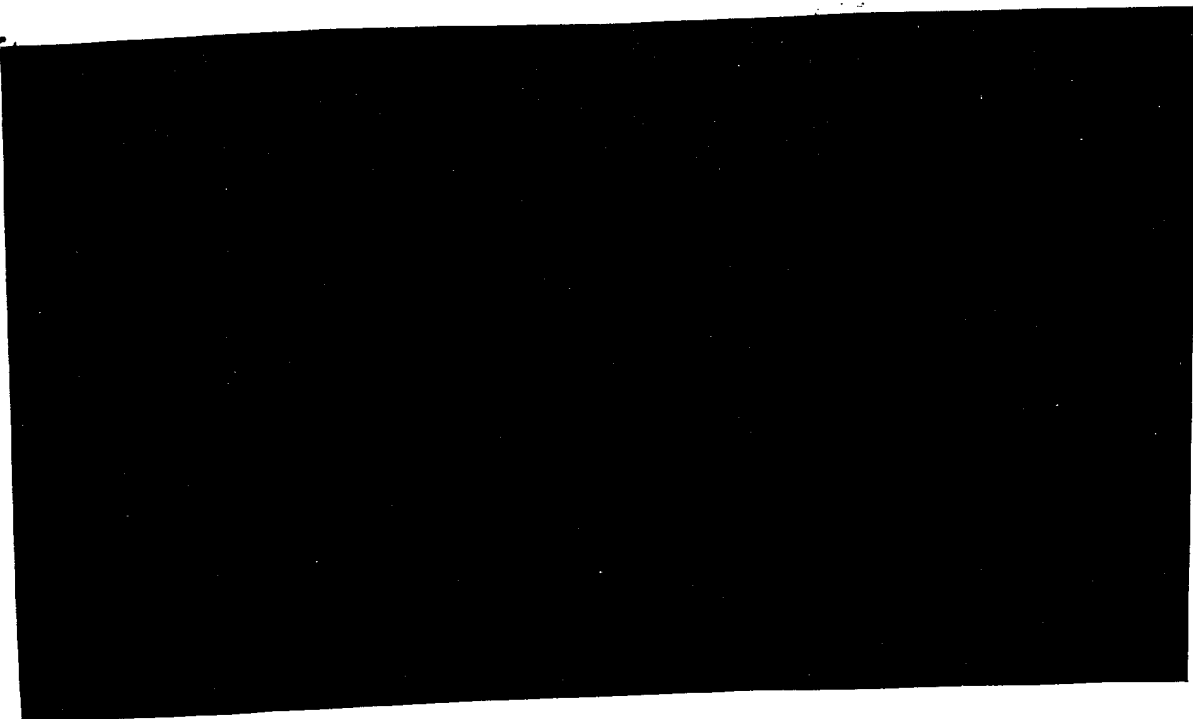


N.R.



EASTERN EUROPE

- 4. Hungary heralds "new era" of independent Communism:
 In a frank and revealing comment on relations with Yugoslavia, a Hungarian broadcast of 10 October commented that trips to Belgrade by Hungarian, Polish, Bulgarian and Rumanian leaders will lead to "noninterference in the affairs of others and real equality in principle and practice." The praise of Tito's fight against the "international assault of Stalinist tyranny" suggests that liberalization in Hungarian domestic policy will increase. This could hasten the reinstatement to party or government power of ex-premier Nagy, whose domestic policies resemble those of the Yugoslavs.

The broadcast concluded with the statement that the Crimea meeting between Yugoslav and Soviet leaders gives a "new impetus to the Communists of the people's democracies to overcome the resistance of the retreating Stalinist forces." The broadcast, by implication, also encouraged more independent thinking by Communists within the Socialist framework. Thus Hungarians pressing for moderation appear to be treating the Crimean talks as a re-endorsement of their views.

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The formation of a more liberal Hungarian government, possibly including Nagy, may be announced at the 22 October extraordinary session of the National Assembly. Politburo member Istvan Kovacs in a speech on 4 October warned that it was necessary to replace those who were unable to adjust to the more liberal internal policies. Continuing unconfirmed reports of the gradual removal of anti-Nagyists in middle government and party ranks, and the recent jailing of several police officials most responsible for Stalinist excesses, support the theory that further personnel shifts are in the offing.

[REDACTED]

5. Three new deputy defense ministers named in Hungary:
The appointment of three new deputy defense ministers in Hungary was announced on 6 October by the Budapest press. Major General Lajos Toth was elevated to the post of first deputy minister of defense, and Major Generals Gyula Uszta and Ferenc Madarasz were named deputy ministers.
- [REDACTED]

Comment: Toth was appointed chief of staff of the Hungarian army in early 1955 and will probably continue to occupy this position since this dual role is common in the Soviet bloc.

The promotion of Uszta, an old revolutionary who was associated with the Hungarian partisans in World War II, is in line with the government's program of elevating nationally oriented Communist figures. He has been inspector general of the armored forces since 1952. Madarasz has been commander of Hungary's home anti-aircraft defense organization since early this year. Uszta and Madarasz are probably occupying newly created positions. The appointments bring three top commanders into defense policy planning.

[REDACTED]

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