

Hungarian Refugees Have Message for Us

Out of the tragedy of bleeding Hungary has come an unexcelled opportunity for the free world to unmask Communism and permanently expose the wanton brutality for which it stands.

It is not sufficient that resolutions be adopted condemning the Soviet Union for crushing the effort of the Hungarian people to liberate themselves from bondage; these pronouncements are all too soon forgotten.

The western powers should make a living and lasting example of what Communism—the so-called government of the people—actually means to those so unfortunate as to wear its shackles, simply by encouraging Hungarian refugees to tell and retell their story of deprivation, degradation and death under the Red yoke.

Communists and their stooges throughout the free world are constantly preaching on the manufactured evils of capitalism and the imaginary benefits of their way of life. They never let up even though their arguments have no basis in fact.

Does it not follow then that the Hungarian refugees could be utilized to good advantage in separating fact from fancy by telling the world the vast difference between Communism in theory and operation? They did not learn their Communism from starry-eyed teachers, textbooks or orators, but in 10 years of enslavement by the system supposedly designed to set them free.

When conditions became so unbearable that they preferred to stake their lives on a revolutionary bid for freedom, they did not weigh their chances of success. They knew from the outset the odds were heavily against them, yet they were prepared to take that slim chance of escaping from their misery.

As was expected, the revolt was crushed by the Soviet Union's armed might but not before thousands of Hungarians had made their way across the border into Austria. Many have since reached the United States and other free countries with their tales of horror under their Red masters.

They could be converted into first-class salesmen of democracy by being encouraged and financed on speaking missions in their new homelands.

This is particularly true of the United States. Instead of being content to place all the refugees in temporary jobs and makeshift homes, why not take a sufficient number, divide them into groups and conduct them on tours throughout the nation?

Let the Hungarian students visit American schools, tell their experiences with Communism and set right those who have read the wrong books or have taken too seriously the words of misguided pinks.

Doors of industrial plants might well be opened to the refugee workers for an exchange of views with American labor. It would not take long to determine that enslavement and exploitation are the products of Communism and not democracy.

Other refugees could be made available for appearances at service clubs and all types of organizations. Let the true word go out to all interested in hearing it, and there are millions of Americans who would like a closer contact with the Hungarian refugees than that afforded in newspaper interviews and brief television appearances.

These tragic Hungarians have a vital message available for the asking. They know the truth about the complete failure of Communism as a people's movement. Hearing it would be refreshing.