

# Hungary in Grip of Strike; Workers Clash With Police

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Special to The New York Times.

VIENNA, Dec. 11—A general strike went into effect today through most of Hungary. The stoppage had been called Sunday by the Budapest Central Workers Council before the group was outlawed by order of Premier Janos Kadar.

Reports from Budapest said part of the working staff turned up in a few factories in the capital. But as far as output was concerned, the strike, which was to run forty-eight hours, was fully effective.

This was obvious even from the Government's own statements over the Budapest radio. These were interspersed with appeals to workers to return to their jobs.

Instead, the workers demonstrated in the streets against the Soviet-controlled regime. They persisted despite the attempts to disperse them by the Kadar police, constituted mainly from the former political police force.

In the industrial suburb Ujpest policemen fired into a crowd, inflicting a number of casualties. In other cases, they used their rifle butts but were quickly surrounded and reportedly beaten by the crowds. When this happened, it was said, they called up Soviet tanks and armored cars.

Dispatches from Budapest, with which communications have partly been resumed, made it obvious, as did reports from fugitives who reached Austria, that the economy of Hungary had again been effectively paralyzed.

In the important factory towns of Gyor, Debrecen, Szolnok and Kecskemet, it was reported, no wheel moved. In the iron and steel center of Dunapentele, once called Sztalinvaros,

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# HUNGARY IN GRIP OF A WIDE STRIKE

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some workers assembled in factories, but no iron or steel was made.

Fighting was reported in Miskolc and in the near-by Borsod industrial area. There and in the Bakony hills and forests, freedom fighters beat back Soviet attacks, it was said.

Soviet motorized infantry went to the assistance of the Kadar police in an attack on workers of the coal and uranium mines near Pecs, but the result is reported to have been a drawn battle. Other clashes were reported from Salgotarjan, Tata and Magyarovar.

Mr. Kadar is reported to have told a delegation of Budapest workers that his Government would announce a constructive program for the rehabilitation of the Hungarian economy as soon as the "counter-revolution" ended. This, he said, would be at the end of next week.

Well-authenticated reports, however, indicate that, aside from passive resistance by the workers, an armed revolt by freedom fighters is being reorganized on a firmer and more permanent basis. Maj. Gen. Bela Kiraly, who was second in command of the rebels who held out long in the Killian barracks in Budapest, is said to be directing it.

He is said to have built up a general staff including a Yugoslav expert on partisan warfare and a number of junior Yugoslav officers.

Reports received here from fugitives and other sources indicate that the Russians in Hungary are having their troubles with disrupted communications. Recent reinforcements or replacements brought in have not arrived by way of Zahony or Satoraljaujhely from the Carpatho-Ukraine but by way of Timisoara in Rumania.

Soviet armored units are

Intensified police activity in both was believed to be a major factor in the situation at Salgotarjan, a mining center near the Czechoslovak border, and Zalaegerszeg, in the southwest near the Yugoslav frontier.

Eighty persons were reported killed in a clash with the police in Salgotarjan last Saturday.

Only a few cars and buses were running in Budapest today, where the strike appeared to be almost complete.

Gas and electricity supplies were normal and food stores were open.

The railroads were reported to be operating at 80 per cent normal service.

## Freedom Band Is Trapped

BUDAPEST, Dec. 11 (AP)—Informed Hungarian sources said today that Soviet troops had encircled a band of freedom fighters holding out in the hills at Harmashatárhegy, about twenty miles northwest of Budapest. They said the troops sought to wipe out the rebels with medium artillery and heavy machine guns.

Shooting of cannon and machine guns was heard sporadically throughout the day in Budapest. It appeared to come from or near Gellert Hill, whose historic citadel has been converted by the Russians into a base for tanks and artillery.

Even while trying to combat the strike, the Kadar Government struck out on a new course, with the property of refugees as its target.

The Budapest radio broadcast a Government announcement that the state would take control of the property of all persons who had left Hungary since the start of the rebellion Oct. 23 and sell it if they were not back by March 31, 1957, a previously set amnesty deadline.

said to have almost vanished from Western Hungary. It is roughly estimated that instead of the 220,000 soldiers that Moscow sent into the country when the fighting was at its height there now are only 60,000.

## Martial Law In Effect

BUDAPEST, Dec. 11 (Reuters)—The martial law that was proclaimed Sunday went into force at 6 P. M. today.

From now on, by Government decree, anyone caught in possession of arms and ammunition without permission will be dealt with by summary courts. Other offenses to be tried under martial law include murder, manslaughter, arson, robbery, looting and damage to factories.

According to reports reaching here tonight, workers remained on their jobs today only in two of the nation's principal towns.