

CONSCIENCE ON HUNGARY

22 JUN 1957 NYH
Immediate reconvening of the General Assembly of the United Nations is now in order to consider the scathing report that has just been issued by its special committee of inquiry into Soviet Russia's savage suppression of the Hungarian revolt.

The unanimous finding of the committee, composed of representatives of five independent powers from as many continents, could leave no trace of doubt in anyone's mind that the "spontaneous national uprising" in Hungary, "caused by long-standing grievances," was crushed by "a massive armed intervention by one power on the territory of another with the avowed intention of interfering in its internal affairs." The brutality of Communist imperialism, as thus once again revealed, is matched only by the cynicism of official Russian and Hungarian attempts to laugh off this measured judgment of the free world. The question now is, as it always has been: what to do about it?

Certainly the least that can be done is for the Assembly to resume its suspended session for the express purpose of taking up this report. The revulsion of the civilized world against Russia's aggression in Hungary must be emphasized and re-emphasized; the contempt of every free state for the Kadar regime must be underlined; whatever moral weight the opinion of free peoples may have—and we believe it has, cumulatively, a great deal of weight—must be brought to bear against the degradation of the human spirit that the Russian masters have forced on Hungary.

We hope that Ambassador Lodge, chief of the United States delegation, will urge these points at the meeting today of the twenty-four countries that originally sponsored the Hungarian investigation. The Senate Foreign Relations Committee yesterday unanimously urged the reconvening of the General Assembly at this time to consider the problem of Hungary; and we trust that the Senate itself will quickly endorse that action. The United States can and should take the leadership, but in this matter the decision does not depend on us alone. There are, however, certain things we could and should do on our own initiative to show our practical sympathy for the Hungarian people.

Instead of congratulating ourselves, as the Administration persists in doing, on the admission of