

INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State

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Action

Control 9238
ec'd. November 13, 1956
7:50 p.m.

EUR

FROM: Budapest

Info

RMR

TO: Secretary of State

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NO: 281, November 13, 7 .m

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PRIORITY

Legation today received first summary of the much circulated reports that Russians are deporting Hungarians to the USSR on significant scale. Information given by Hungarian railway employee at Debrecen who visited Legation this afternoon. Legation visitor appeared reliable and sincere; he promised to return again with further information.

Legation visitor said he observed following cases Budapest deportees in transit in Debrecen: November 9 train No. 1206 time in Debrecen 2135-2156 axles and tonnage 52/493; November 11 train No. 1706 time in Debrecen 2201-2230 axles and tonnage 26,248; November 12 train No. 4766 time in Debrecen 0038-0125 axles and tonnage 108/502; (Legation assumes description by axles is standard usage in Hungary.)

Legation visitor said he was handcuffed and allowed go aboard November 9 train for performance duties. He estimated about 1,500 children, soldiers, and civilian men and women on board. On November 11 train he observed soldiers and civilians, but did not hazard estimate their number. On November 12 train he estimated there were about 15 soldiers and civilians. Legation visitor could not judge whether Budapest deportees were selected or merely picked up at random. However, in case Debrecen itself the deportees (who are being transported by trucks) are apparently being selected judging by the type people who have vanished. For example, Legation visitor stated that almost all members revolutionary committee in Debrecen local council have disappeared. Visitor said Debrecen in grip fear; all kinds lists names are under preparation; political police go about town gleefully laughing; house searches are being carried out by AVH in civilian clothes.

* Legation believes evidence on Soviet deportation policy is becoming so clear that UN and media should begin discussing subject soonest. Legation recommends that Department allow media give generalized publicity to information in this telegram taking utmost care to cover our tracks.

AB:DTT/14

WAILES

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