Parallel History Project on NATO and the Warsaw Pact (PHP)

War on Tito's Yugoslavia? The Hungarian Army in Early Cold War Soviet Strategies Edited by László Ritter, Christian Nuenlist, and Anna Locher

www.isn.ethz.ch/php

February 2005

I received this without enclosures 22 December. Mrs. [Illegible signature] TOP SECRET!

PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF HUNGARY Down: V/5 a. MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

To Comrade MÁTYÁS RÁKOSI

Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Hungary

Budapest

I enclose the report on the peace and "M" state of supply of military equipment of the Hungarian People's Army in accordance with its position on 30 December 1953.

I have already informed you verbally that we would not be able to ensure the supply of primarily tanks, aeroplanes, heavy calibre artillery, and tractor and off-road vehicles for the first phase by 31 December 1953. What the deficiencies in these weapons will be at the end of 1953 becomes clear from the report.

In connection with this I also make proposals in the report as to how we can make up for these deficiencies. I believe my report and proposals need to be discussed either at the meeting of the Defence Council or within a narrower circle – whichever you think expedient – and decisions need to be reached which will ensure the full supply of the first phase of our People's Army by a new deadline.

I enclose the requests made to the government of the Soviet Union for 1953. To this I attach the draft letter in connection with this, which needs to be addressed to the Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Soviet Union, Comrade Stalin.

The majority of the requests are for spare parts and accessories. At the same time it also includes the request for the licences and documentation necessary in the industrial area for production in 1953.

I submit that the requests be approved and sent.

Budapest, 10 December 1952.

Yours fraternally,

Mihály Farkas

Enclosures:

06100/GSHPA, Mat. Plan. Dir., 1 copy in Hungarian, 1 copy in Russian 07200/GSHPA, Mat. Plan. Dir., 1 copy in Hungarian Draft letter 1 copy in Hungarian, 1 copy in Russian 5 enclosures in total.

[Translated by László Ritter, Budapest]