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**Report by Minister of National Defense (Lajos Czinege) to the HSWP Political Committee on  
Negotiations with Supreme Commander of the UAF (Marshal A. Grechko) of 21-27 October 1964**

**6 November 1964**

HUNGARIAN PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC; MINISTER FOR NATIONAL DEFENSE

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R E P O R T for the Politburo of the HSWP

Between October 21 – 27, 1964 we conducted negotiations in Moscow with comrade Marshal Grechko, supreme commander of the Unified Armed Forces of the Warsaw Treaty and with the leaders of the Staff of the Unified Armed Forces. Under my leadership the meeting was attended by the chief of staff and the responsible leaders of the Staff of the Hungarian People's Army.

For the years 1966 – 67 the agenda of the meeting included the following:

- the development of the Hungarian People's Army
- the provision of the necessary material reserves
- tasks pertaining to the preparation of the seat of military operations.

The negotiations were based on:

- the resolution of the Political Consultative Committee made on July 26, 1963,
- the 1964 recommendations of the Supreme Command of the unified Armed Forces
- the decision made by the Politburo of HSWP in June, 1964 concerning the planned provisions.

During our talks with comrade Marshal Grechko we agreed that the plan of development of the Hungarian People's Army for the years 1966 – 1970 basically met the recommendations of the Unified Armed Forces. At the same time we established that for lack of sufficient financial resources we would not be able to meet all the specifications recommended by the Unified Armed Forces and we would not be able to accomplish all the tasks following from the resolution of the Political Consultative Committee by the year 1970.

The July 1963 resolution of the Political Consultative Committee requires the accumulation of material reserves of 30 days by 1967 –1968. Considering our current potentials we can only meet this requirement by 1970, and thus we are not in a position to start increasing further reserves either.

When considering the recommendations concerning the preparations of the seat of military operations we took into account the development plans of our people's economy, and in all likelihood we will be able to meet most of these recommendations while keeping in mind that we will have to be in accord with the plans. In the area of the preparations of the seat of operations there are several tasks – firstly in communication and telecommunications – whose feasibility requires further considerations, but it is foreseeable now that we will not be able to accomplish them fully.

In order to be able to utilize the available resources to a maximum degree for the development, and to reduce the costs of maintenance, it is necessary to reduce the numbers planned earlier. In the course of the negotiations we announced that we intended to reduce the forces by limiting certain units of the directly combat-ready troops.

I have informed the comrade Supreme commander that the elaboration of the third five-year plan of the Hungarian People's Republic is just underway, so at the moment we are not yet in the position to calculate with the final numbers. In this context I have proposed that the occasionally significant increase in the prices of military technological goods might have an impact on the plans to be worked out in the future and might also put a limit on the quantities to be procured. During our talks the Soviet comrades – especially comrade Marshal Grechko – received our announcements with great understanding and agreed that the finalization of the plans could only be done at a later time.

In the course of the negotiations we prepared a draft report for the years 1966 – 1970 which contains the main index numbers for the development, the order of battle, and the material and technological resources of the Hungarian People's Republic as well as some important tasks pertaining to the preparation of the seat of military operations. This draft report will serve as the basis for further planning, and it will probably be approved in the second half of next year, when the Politburo and the government have already endorsed the plans concerning the development of the Hungarian People's Army.

It is to be expected that the Political Consultative Committee will also have a meeting to discuss some issues related to the development of the armies of member states of the Warsaw Treaty.

Taking the above into consideration the draft report was not signed; instead we signed a memorandum that contains the essence of this report.

In the near future I intend to submit a proposal to the Committee for National Defense and the Politburo concerning the development of the Hungarian People's Army which will contain all the relevant objectives pertaining to national defense, an evaluation of the present situation and the and the main tasks we will have to face in the development of the Hungarian People's Army. Therefore I do not consider any measures necessary at the moment with respect to what is contained in this report.

While staying in Moscow our delegation attended the funeral service of Marshal Biryuzov and his companions who deceased fatally. We stood in guard of honor at the catafalque and participated at the memorial service in the Red Square.

I request the Politburo to acknowledge and accept my report.

Budapest, November 6, 1964.

Lajos Czinege  
Colonel general  
Minister of National Defense

[Translation by Andreas Bocz]