

# PRESS RELEASE

## INTERNATIONAL CONFEDERATION OF FREE TRADE UNIONS

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### POLITICAL MURDERS SHOCK THE FREE WORLD

J.H. Oldenbroek, General Secretary of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, today made the following statement concerning the executions simultaneously announced by Moscow and Budapest radio stations:

"This is another instance of callous disregard of human rights and freedoms by so-called communist justice,

"The free world was shocked to learn of the accumulation of inhuman treatment of Imre Nagy, former Premier of Hungary, General Pal Maleter, and other leaders of the 1956 freedom fight in Hungary - the disregard of safe-conduct passes, the men's enforced removal to Rumania, imprisonment, secret trial and execution. In this way the small minority which rules Hungary with the support of Soviet tanks has its revenge and at the same time seeks to intimidate the people of that unhappy country. On the day of reckoning, however, these judicial murders will not be forgotten.

"We as free trade unionists support the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and express our deep concern at this violation of Articles 10 and 11 which call for a fair and public hearing by an independent and impartial tribunal, and under which everyone charged with a penal offence should be presumed innocent until proved guilty.

"The free trade union movement has repeatedly called for vigilance and prudence whenever communist leaders have tried to soothe the conscience of the free world by hypocritical declarations of sweet reasonableness.

"These political murders finally dispose of the myth that Soviet controlled regimes have been 'liberalised' since Stalin's death."

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