

SOVIETS, YUGOSLAVS DIFFER ON COUNCILS IN HUNGARY

Soviet and Yugoslav Communists are sharply divided on the role of the Workers Councils in Hungary.

Pravda, Soviet Communist Party paper, on Monday defended the dissolution of the Workers Councils. It said that reactionary elements had infiltrated the Councils and that the Workers Council was "encumbered with criminal characters." These elements, Pravda said, are preventing the restoration of order in Hungary.

The Yugoslav Communist newspaper Borba, the same day declared, however: "The workers councils in Hungary are dissolved. The great question that remains is whether their revolutionary germ has been destroyed as well."

The Hungarian government headed by Janos Kadar had declared, in the same way as did Pravda, that the Workers Councils had been taken over by counter-revolutionaries. This in turn was disputed by the foreign editor of the Yugoslav paper Politika, who had just returned from Budapest

and wrote that "the Kadar government has lost respect among the workers." Yugoslav vice-president Edvard Kardelj said in a speech to the Yugoslav parliament on Friday that it is "most astonishing that the Kadar leadership distrusted the Workers Councils."

The newspaper Politika went further and said: "Military occupation and police terror cannot remain forever the only support of the Government." Politika's foreign editor said he found in Hungary that the Workers Councils were undoubtedly oriented toward socialism. He conceded that many members of the councils lacked a clear program. But he said the Workers Councils had the confidence of the workers. "The Workers Councils had the confidence of the workers."

Politika also said that the position of the Kadar government had been weakened by the deportation of former Premier Imre Nagy. "Nothing in fact has been decided" by Soviet intervention, according to Politika.