

AMERICA AND HUNGARY

NO PEOPLE LIKES to have foreign troops stationed on its soil. Recent events in Egypt and Hungary have brought this question into sharp focus.

Of course, the issue isn't the same in those two countries. Foreign troops—British, French and Israeli—are in Egypt as a result of one of the most brazen acts of aggression in the long sordid history of imperialism. Foreign troops—those of the Soviet Union—are in Hungary by agreement between the two countries under the Warsaw Pact, counterpart of NATO, as well as under the Potsdam Agreement (Hungary was part of the fascist Axis).

Clearly great injustices and monumental blunders by the Hungarian Communist leadership and the Soviet Union were behind the series of events that led to the Hungarian tragedy.

We agree with the views of many progressives and of the letter to its membership by the Communist Party of the U.S.A. (reported in our previous issue) that the first use of Soviet troops on Oct. 24 was "a tragic error." It is also true that the ragtag and bobtail of hidden fascists and reactionaries as well as agents of our own CIA undoubtedly made hay. They became a serious threat. Without this reactionary intervention the conflict would probably long since have ended.

There are serious differences among progressives as to the necessity of the second Soviet military intervention on Nov. 4. We believe much more information will be necessary before a clearcut judgment becomes possible.

THE EFFORTS of certain government officials and other public figures, of the press and radio to pour oil on the flames and obstruct an agreement between the Hungarian people and their government doesn't serve the interests of America.

The attempt to heat up the cold war and prevent the United States and the Soviet Union from working together to safeguard world peace doesn't serve USA's interests.

It's time to negotiate the withdrawal of ALL foreign troops from ALL countries—it could be part of the agenda of a new summit conference. This proposal has been repeatedly made by the Soviet Union, only to be rebuffed by Washington, London and Paris.

There is no doubt that such withdrawal would serve the interests of America.