

# Burden of Representing America Too Much for U.P. Writer Russell Jones

Editor's note: This is the third in a series by the only American correspondent who remained in Budapest throughout the rebellion and its suppression.

By RUSSELL JONES  
United Press Correspondent  
London—U.P.—I put away the American flag on Nov. 12.

For 25 days it had covered the hood of my small Ford. And at first I was more than proud of the cheer and applause it brought from Hungarians in the street.

But as the days wore on, the cheers turned to stares of wilderment and, sometimes, expressions of bitterness.

I took the flag down because I could no longer bear the burden of representing America to the Hungarian people, of trying to answer the question, "Why don't you help us?"

Worse, I couldn't bear the sympathy and courtesy with which they listened to my stalling, inadequate answers.

When the Russians launched their second attack on Nov. 4 and crushed the young democracy, the West stood by, seemingly helpless.

On Csepel Island where the workers fought for the seized factory's greatest complex of factories, a simple workman said:

"President Eisenhower said the United States had never encouraged a revolt against a legitimate government. What does he mean?"

"What have you been telling us all these years? What did the 'policy of liberation' mean?"

Unanswered Questions  
What does an American say to questions like that? I didn't know and still don't know.

One man in Miskolc, 160 miles northwest of Budapest, pushed his head out of his car to say: "You Americans. You gave us a lot of help when we needed it. Drop dead."

Much harder to take was the kindness of an old woman. She asked why the Americans didn't help. I told her, "But I am only one person." She patted my shoulder.

Most of the in Hungary is

aimed at Radio Free Europe and the Voice of America. They have been successful in reaching the Hungarian people. So much so that over and over, Hungarians would ask:

"Why do you bother talking if

## Is That So?

What would the coming Christmas holiday season be without holly, pine cones, poinsettias, evergreen branches or a vase of chrysanthemums.

But plants aren't these traditional plants and when they begin to brown or wither prematurely! Here, then, are ways to keep them and make your home more festive and bright.

Christmas trees: To begin, select those with soft and pliable branches and bright, fragrant foliage. To make sure, feel the cut trunk. If it's moist with sap, chances are your tree is fairly fresh cut. Never buy a tree whose needles are turning brown or crisp to the touch—it has already lost most of its moisture.

Your tree will last longer if you keep it outdoors or in a cold garage or a cool basement before trimming. Saw across the trunk or a slant about one inch or so above the existing cut. Set the trunk in a pail of water, fairly warm to begin with, and spray the branches daily with cold water. When ready to trim, place your tree in a cool spot, away from radiators, fireplaces, and television sets—they're drying.

To keep the decorated tree fresh, set the trunk if possible in a container of moist sand and keep this wet. You can make a stand by corking the drainage hole of a large flower-pot, filling it with sand, and then setting the pot in a large waterproof tub.

For safety's sake, never use lighted candles. And if you use electric lights, check the connections and wires. Watch out particularly for frayed wires or loose connections on or near the tree. Keep electric toys away from the tree; also wrapping paper and other inflammable ma-

terials. When you leave your home, don't risk it—turn off the tree lights! And turn them off overnight.

Wise to Fireproof  
It's wise to fireproof Christmas trees and greens. For five minutes submerge branches in a solution of 1 pound ammonium phosphate (from a nursery) to every two gallons of water. This will not turn foliage brown. (But don't confuse this with ammonium sulphate, which may turn the leaves brown and is useless for fireproofing.)

Chrysanthemums: Recut stems under water and condition in cold water to which four level tablespoons of sugar have been added for each quart. If the stems are hard, split them two-five inches, depending on length. In deep containers, foliage must be stripped off leaves below the water line.

Poinsettias: Immediately upon cutting, seal the stems by holding them in a flame while you count slowly to 15. That done, condition them in cold water overnight for at least eight hours.

Holly: Although holly can be cut the year round, it is most attractive when fruits are fully developed and color is brilliant. (If birds are beating you to the berries, cut the plants and store them in a dark, cool place, with stems plunged in cold water.)

Split the woody stems. To condition the plant and rid the foliage of dust and grime, it might be well to submerge the entire branches in cold water overnight.

Pine cones: Excellent keepsakes, but when you bring them into a warm room they tend to pop open, expelling the seeds. Expanding cones are attractive but if you don't wish them to open, collect them when they are tightly closed and coat them with shellac or plastic spray. However, this tends to give them a polished, artificial look.

Evergreens: To remove dust or grime, collected over the years, wash the foliage and branches with warm, soapy water, then rinse in cold. You'll be surprised at the improvement—they will look glossy, alive and healthy without the need of polishing with oil or rubbing with wax paper. Next split the woody stems two-three inches. Place them overnight in warm (95 degrees F.) water to which a tablespoon of glycerin has been added for every quart of water. Then to make them fresh and crisp, place them in cold water for a day. This will banish that lifeless look many evergreens commonly have during this season. (Copyright, 1956, by Eugene Burns)

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By EUGENE BURNS  
Ranger-Naturalist

most achieve, the impossible. The United States was not the only target. Britain and France were accused time and again of having exploited the revolution to cover their attack on Egypt.

A worker in Csepel said, "Britain has roasted the chestnuts of Suez in the fires of Budapest." Another said more bluntly, "Eden has stabbed the Hungarian revolution in the back."

U. S. Draws Blame  
But the United States drew blame, too, for its Suez policy. "If Eisenhower can threaten war when the Russians talk about volunteers, why can't he do the same when they send

5,000 tanks into Hungary?" asked a miner in Dorog. "Are we less important than the Egyptians and the Israelis? Is the blood we shed less red than theirs?"

Despite the inability of the Hungarians to understand the reasons why they were not helped, the West, and America

in particular, has a great reservoir of good will. On the simple human side, the Hungarians are grateful for the help the West has given them over the years. Time and again, anonymous little people would come to me to ask that I help send messages to friends. Not requests for aid, just assurances

they had survived. The messages were left in the hotel, slipped in our pockets, left under the windshield wipers of our cars or handed over openly under the noses of Soviet soldiers.

I remember one. It read: "Tell Louie we are living. Tell him we mess (sic) them."

The Vienna license plates on my car brought the repeated query, "Are you going to Vienna?" But no one ever asked that I take him along.

It was in a feeling of utter inadequacy that I took the flag off my car on Nov. 12. The burden of being a representative of all America was too much.

Nanny Goat Jams Suburban Traffic  
Jackson, Miss.—U.P.—A quarrelsome nanny goat jammed traffic for an hour on a busy suburban street Tuesday by butting all comers.

That's the biggest goat I ever saw," Patrolman George Carver said. "She pushed my car with her head and I pushed her with my car. Every time one driver would get around her, she'd step into the road to stop another and start bumping his car."

Mrs. Morris Gordon, owner of the ill-tempered nanny, admitted the episode was not the first.

"I just don't know what to do with that goat," she said. "If I pen her up, she gets out. If I tie her up she is unhappy and loses weight."

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## Royal Philharmonic Awaits Armstrong

London—(U.P.)—The Royal Philharmonic Orchestra brushed up today on its hot licks and blue notes in preparation for next week's appearance of guest artist Louis Armstrong.

The Royal Philharmonic more accustomed to the crashing drums of a Beethoven symphony or the lilting violins of a Strauss waltz, rehearsed a complicated new score with the imposing title: "Variations On Jazz Themes Associated With Louis Satchmo Armstrong."

The program will include such Dixieland classics as St. Louis Blues and Mahogany Hall Stomp, and the Chicago-style West End Blues.

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