

October 30, 2006

Recently at the Embassy



Proclamation by President Bush on the 50th Anniversary of the Hungarian Revolution

"On the 50th anniversary of the Hungarian Revolution, we celebrate the Hungarians who defied an empire to demand their liberty; we recognize the friendship between the United States and Hungary; and we reaffirm our shared desire to spread freedom to people around the world." [More▶](#)

Letter from President Sólyom to President Bush

"It is with great appreciation that we Hungarians have read the proclamation you issued on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the Hungarian Revolution and Freedom Fight declaring October 23, 2006 a day of recognition of those bloody yet uplifting days half a century ago. I would like you to know that your noble gesture underlining the strong friendship and ever closer ties between our nations and expressing the American people's recognition for our heroic struggle to rid ourselves of tyranny has touched my fellow Hungarians." [More▶](#)



Governor Pataki Remembers 1956 at CEU

On October 23, Governor George Pataki, leader of the U.S. delegation that commemorated the 50th anniversary of the 1956 revolution in Budapest, talked to the audience of the Central European University about the importance of the Hungarian revolution, his personal memories of the uprising, and his role as New York State's governor. [More▶](#)



Ambassador Discusses U.S.-Hungary Ties in Primetime

On October 18, Ambassador April H. Foley appeared on primetime talk show "Friderikusz Most" on Magyar ATV. Ambassador Foley addressed U.S.-Hungarian relations, as well as U.S. appreciation of Hungary's role in the joint struggle against terrorism, its contributions in Iraq and Afghanistan, and the visa issue.

Ambassador Foley and Minister Göncz Sign Letter of Intent

On October 20, U.S. Ambassador April Foley and Foreign Minister Kinga Göncz signed a letter of intent to return the building in which 19th-century revolutionary Mihály Táncsics was imprisoned to the Hungarian state. The United States purchased the property in 1948.



Mindszenty Portrait at the Embassy

Head of the Hungarian Catholic Church Cardinal Péter Erdő donated a portrait of Cardinal Mindszenty, painted by renowned Hungarian artist László Gyémánt, to the U.S. Embassy on October 22, 2006. Head of the Hungarian Catholic Church during the revolution of 1956, Cardinal Mindszenty found a safe haven at the U.S. Embassy in Budapest after the uprising was defeated. [More▶](#)



New Computer Game Teaches 1956 History

Andrea Lauer Rice, a Hungarian-American, introduced "Fight for Freedom in 1956!" (FF56!), an educational computer game for teens about the Revolution of 1956, to the students of the Bilingual High School in Balatonalmádi on October 24.

U.S. NATO Official Attends Parliament Conference on NATO

The U.S. Deputy Permanent Representative to NATO Richard Olson represented the United States at a conference sponsored by the Hungarian National Assembly on "Transformation of NATO -- Strengthening the Alliance's Effectiveness" on October 20. Mr. Olson emphasized that the upcoming NATO Summit in Riga will work to ensure that NATO is prepared militarily and politically to tackle today's challenges. He underscored the importance of NATO's transformational efforts in Afghanistan, where Hungary is also leading a Provincial Reconstruction Team in Pol-e Khomri. [U.S. Mission to NATO](#)

Hungarian Student receives Draper Leadership Award



Sergeant Adam Hati from Hungary attended the Cavalry Scout Basic Non-commissioned Officer Course from 11 September - 12 October, 2006 at Fort Knox, Ky. SGT Hati received the Draper Leadership Award. This award is presented to the non-commissioned officer who is selected by his peers for his leadership abilities. This is the second highest award given in the course. SGT Hati also received a 2 star note from Major General Williams on his success.

Embassy Diplomat Meets Hungarian High School Students

At the invitation of the American Corner, Reserve Assistance Air Attache Ed Kelety visited the Padányi Bíró Márton Roman Catholic High School in Veszprém. To an audience of about 100 students he gave a short presentation on a variety of subjects such as the perceptions of Americans in Europe, the U.S. educational system (and its funding mechanism), perceptions of Europeans in the U.S., Americans' knowledge of Europe, and being a Hungarian-American. After the presentation he also answered question from the audience. [American Corners](#)



Former NFL Star Fondly Recalls Hungarian Roots



Peter Gogolak, former professional player of the New York Giants, visited Hungary as a member of the Presidential delegation to the 1956 commemorations. Mr. Gogolak arrived in the United States in 1957 following the 1956 revolution at the age of 14. In the U.S., Mr. Gogolak became known as the football player who revolutionized kicking. While in Hungary, Mr. Gogolak was interviewed by the national television network

Sport TV, national sports daily *Nemzeti Sport* and the leading national daily *Magyar Hírlap*.

Looking Ahead

NATO Summit in Riga, Latvia



"...NATO today is an alliance that delivers,... one of the best examples of strong and effective multilateralism ..." *U.S. Ambassador to NATO, Victoria Nuland at the International Workshop on Global Security, May 23, 2006* [U.S. Mission to NATO Riga Summit page](#)

In the News... from Washington

HírTV Interview with Kurt Volker, U.S. Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for European and Eurasian Affairs



"What happened in Hungary in 1956 was very important for the American people. There is a generation here that remembers the revolution, and there is a younger generation that does not. So it is very important that we officially acknowledge and remember what happened in the country and the importance it carried for freedom in the world." [More](#)