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SOURCE Riportok Es Hirek Magyarorszagrol.

BUDAPEST-KOBANYA PRISON HOUSES
3,500 POLITICAL PRISONERS

HOUSES "DISTINGUISHED" PRISONERS -- Riportok Es Hirek Magyarorszagrol, New York, 13 May 50

The Budapest-Kobanya prison was originally built for 700 prisoners, but now houses over 3,500 persons, mostly political prisoners. Six or seven prisoners are crowded together in cells barely large enough for two.

The prison is composed of two so-called left and right "stars." Each star contains three wings and has four floors. The death cell is located in wing one of the right star. The second floor of this building houses prisoners sentenced for economic crimes until they are transferred to Vac or Sopron-Kohida. The third and fourth floors are reserved for the "enemies of democracy."

Wing three of the right star has been set aside for "serious" political criminals. This part of the prison is called the "ghetto" by both prisoners and guards because of the extremely harsh treatment given to the inmates. The well-known protagonists of the ill-famed conspiracy trials are also held in this wing. These include Balint Homan, Istvan Antal, and Antal Kunder, former ministers; Ferenc Kiss; Gen Lajos Dalnoki-Veres; Prince Paul Eszterhazy, and Prof Justin Baranyai, outstanding figures in the Mindszenty trial, etc.

There are an unusually large number of priests, at least 40, among the inmates of the "ghetto". They include Miklos Asztalos and an old teacher-priest who figured in the student conspiracy of Vac. Prof Simon Papp, an oil man of world renown and former director of the American-Hungarian Oil Company, occupies a cell on the second floor of wing two in the left star. His cell was formerly a warehouse.

Until recently, Andras Zakar, former secretary to Cardinal Mindszenty, was held on the main floor of the same star. He was not permitted to join the other prisoners when they were taken out for a walk, but was led out alone. His meals were brought to his cell by a special guard to prevent him from sending out messages through the prisoners detailed to mess duty.

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The political prisoners previously had the privilege of receiving one 5-kilogram parcel per week. In May 1949, orders were issued that they could receive only one 2-kilogram parcel a week and that they could not send out their underwear for laundering. At the same time, the political prisoners were forbidden to take walks with the other prisoners.

The main floor of wing two of the right star houses the prisoners condemned to death. Some of them have been awaiting execution 4 or 5 months. In the meantime, they have to listen every morning to the executions, which are usually carried out in the courtyard at 0600 hours.

It was known among the prisoners that Cardinal Mindszenty was held in the prison hospital until 6 April 1949. He was guarded by the State Security Police, because the prison guards were not trusted. Not even the warden was allowed to talk to the special Security Police guards.

POLITICAL PRISONERS TORTURED AT "CLINIC" -- New York Riportok Es Hirek Magyarorszagrol, 22 Jul 50

In the Szent Janos Hospital of Budapest, a special wing with 80 beds has been set up by Dr Ernest Szinetar, director of the hospital's psychopathic department. Functionaries who are to be disposed of quietly are brought into Dr Szinetar's clinic. The political police also send him suspects who must leave the hospital in such a state that no credence can be given to their testimony or whose nervous systems are to be destroyed.

Dr Szinetar's favorite method is putting patients to sleep for a week by a series of injections, followed by skopolamin *[sic]* injection and electroshock therapy -- a treatment with which any desired result can be achieved.

No wounds are inflicted in Dr Szinetar's clinic, but victims of the treatment come out as dummies and idiots devoid of any personality.

ARREST INTERNAL DISEASE CLINIC HEAD -- New York Riportok Es Hirek Magyarorszagrol, 1 Jul 50

It is reported from Budapest that Prof Imre Haynal, director of the clinic for internal diseases on Szentkiralyi Street, has been arrested. Details of the arrest are not known.

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