

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SUBJECT 1. Health and Sanitation in Uzhgorod  
2. Education in Uzhgorod

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[Large redacted area]

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1. [redacted] Uzhgorod had a population of 100,000 as of 1952 and covered an area of approximately 36 sq. km.

2. Uzhgorod had no water traffic since the Uzh River was not navigable. The city was connected with Lvov and Kiev, USSR, through Chop, by a railroad. There was also a line to Satoraljaiuhely and Zahony, Hungary. Uzhgorod had air connections with Lvov and Kiev, USSR, for both commercial and passenger traffic.

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3. [redacted] the average family had four children. [redacted]

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[redacted] Tuberculosis was one of the leading causes of death in Uzhgorod and its surrounding area. [redacted] 30% of the deaths were caused by TB. Many women died of cancer of the uterus. Infantile paralysis has become serious since 1950. [redacted]

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[redacted] there were no diseases regarded as endemic.

4. There was an adequate public water-supply system which was owned by the city of Uzhgorod. The source of the water supply was ground water, which was distributed by means of a network of pipes. The city provided hydrants on the streets. The water was probably treated with chlorine and filtered through sand. [redacted]

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[redacted] Since 1949 gonorrhea has become serious and people believed that the reason was the insufficient disinfection of water under the Soviet regime.

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Before the Soviet administration, goiter was never a serious problem. This water system seemed adequate for the whole population in all seasons.

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100% of the population used the public supply

Drink from the central supply and also from private wells. Bottled waters were not sold except mineral waters for the sick and those on special diets.

the Health Department of Zakarpatskaya Oblast exercised control over the slaughtering and handling of meats, fish, shellfish, and other foods in markets and restaurants.

Officials of the Health Department often spot check the quality, quantity, and content of the food in this manner. The Soviets introduced a test for determining the edibility of salt mined and sold in Transcarpathia. The salt was obtained from the Solotvina mines, ground into a fine powder, and delivered to the state stores. Before being put on sale, the salt was subjected to the following test: representative samples of the salt were treated with a colorless liquid. If the salt did not turn blue, the store was prohibited from selling it. This treatment is based on iodine content.

6. Only skim milk was available in the stores. Kolkhoz workers used to sell milk in the markets (bazar). All dairy cattle were tuberculin tested by state veterinarians. Milk sold on the market was controlled by personnel of the Health Department.

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7. Uzhgorod had an adequate sewage system; approximately 60% of the population was served by it. The owners of those houses which were not connected to the city water pipes and sewage mains used wagons to take human excreta to the fields or the Uzh River outside the city, where sewage was ultimately dumped. A very low percentage of human excreta was used for fertilizing the land. No vegetables were raised on such land. City carts collected the garbage early every morning; other types of refuse were not collected. Garbage and other refuse were dumped into holes and low areas around the city by the people themselves.

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8. The drainage system was adequate to carry surface runoff with storm sewers inside the city and open ditches in the outskirts. There were no places near the city where surface water stood for any length of time after heavy rains.

9. Dead animals were burned but human corpses were buried. No other method was used for disposal of the dead in the city or anywhere in this area to my knowledge.

10. There was no organized method of controlling mosquitoes, flies, lice, rodents, fleas, or other pests.

11. There was one general hospital, a polyclinic, and a hospital (Green Cross) for ambulatory patients in Uzhgorod.

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There were medical, surgical, dental, nursing, and obstetrical services available. However, there was a great shortage of even the common drugs.

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25X12. [redacted] there were no divisions dealing with tuberculosis control, venereal disease, sanitation, maternity, child health, or social services for follow-up of infectious diseases. There were absolutely no non-governmental health organizations operating within the city or its environs. In most cases, people reported cases of communicable diseases. [redacted] children were inoculated against smallpox and against some other diseases too.

25X1 [redacted] Absolutely no system of public assistance was in operation in Uzngorod, in the outskirts, or in any of the surrounding areas. There had been no public orientation on health matters since the Soviet rule began.

13. [redacted] the general health conditions were fair. However, sanitation was very poor. The available medical care was inadequate, dental care was fair, and hospital care poor. This area had a very healthy climate, although children were susceptible to infantile paralysis.

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14. There were two primary schools (pyatiletka type), three intermediate schools (semiletka type), two high schools (desyatiletka type), and two teachers' training schools in Uzngorod. English was taught in the semi- and desyatiletka, in the teachers' training schools, and in the university, but on a very low level. [redacted] the university [redacted] had a faculty of medicine and about 45 medical students.

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