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INFORMATION REPORT

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SUBJECT Evaluation of Status, Changes, and Work of the Hungarian Geological Society

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1. The Hungarian Geological Society was simply an independent scientific discussion group before Communists seized Hungary. The State Geological Survey performed many types of scientific geological exploration for Hungary; MAORT /Magyar Amerikai Olajipari Reszvenytarasag/ performed and exploited the bulk of petroleum exploration. Neither asked for nor received assistance or advice from the Society. Neither the State Geological Survey nor MAORT activities were discussed in the Geological Society. Since 1948 this has changed.

2. [redacted] the Society is strongly backing the State Geological Survey with advice and assistance. Elemer Vadasz [redacted] made this change in the Society's activity. In 1951 he was attempting to introduce a militant spirit of attending lectures, absorbing and echoing bombastic propaganda, and visiting the USSR and Satellites. [redacted] the Society is interfering in activities of the Hungarian-USSR oil company that took over MAORT holdings.

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3. [redacted] the fawning references to the USSR did not appear until after 1950. Then in 1951 and later even the opening of Society meetings began with praise of "our glorious ally and great friend, the USSR". Vadasz demanded that the scientist be a politician following the Marx-Lenin principles. Science and industry must work in Communist cooperation against the enemy. By direction and indirection the USSR and Satellite scientists are praised. A USSR man, "Kaftinok", [redacted] is claimed to be the father of geological education. Many references and quotations are made concerning USSR scientists and their materials. Conversely

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all references to those from the Free World are eliminated. This means that science in Hungary is being dictated and is not free. Political interpretations are given emphasis even in reviews of books. For instance, the geological theories of the scientist Linne are used to show that he opposed the church in his day and was therefore a Communist.

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4. The members of the Society appear for the most part to be doing the same work with the same characteristics that they had before 1947. Vadasz and George Kertai [redacted] appear (1951) to be the dominant forces in the organization. This is characteristic of their jealously suspicious hunger for power and their zeal to organize and reorganize activities which will reflect glory on their administrative skills. Vadasz was president of the Society until 1951, when he was replaced by a trusted colleague. Kertai became secretary in 1951, having been editor prior to that time.
5. This group has created a new geological high school at Nagykanizsa [approx 46°57'N - 16°58'E] which was the field center of MAORT operations. Creation of this school is undoubtedly an effort to show how active and hard working Vadasz and Kertai are.

Personnel Trouble

6. In 1951 all was obviously not well in the Society. This is indicated by a speech of Kertai in which he admonishes the group that, "Everyone must cooperate! Our geological work is often obstructed by personalities who hinder us and gossip behind each others' backs. Such dangerous spirit only aids our enemies. We may be sure that such destructive force is actuated by the hand of the political enemy who enjoys seeing the activity slacken and the spirit falter. Without mercy we must arise and destroy all gossiping cliques and petty criticisms. We must have constructive and hard critics but we will not receive that from the enemy." Vadasz' comment on this speech was that he agreed completely with comrade Kertai.

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7. [redacted] evidence of the same old jealous bickerings that had been customary before 1948. For instance, Tibor Szalai read a paper about the geological formations in a certain area. When he finished, J. Erdelyi asked the nasty question, why had Szalai failed to mention the tectonic fault line at Mori? In a meeting of geological scientists this is as insulting as reminding a historian speaking of the presidents of the US that he had failed to mention U S Grant.

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Evaluation of Society

8. [redacted] the members of the Society perform the same quality of work as in 1947. In 1951, however, members were obviously being forced to produce greater quantities of work and publish more with no improvement in quality. Many of their articles are superficial. For instance, a 1953 article by Charles Sebestyen [redacted] "Simple Apparatus for the Determination of the Magnetic Susceptibility of Rocks", failed even to mention that the rock must be pulverized before proper measurement can be made. Before 1948 nothing could induce some geologists to write articles. Ladislav Facsinay [redacted] never published. [redacted] However, by 1951 Facsinay had articles in the Society Bulletin.

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9. Facsinay, Charles Kantas [redacted] and Stephen Haaz [redacted] and Laszlo Egyed [redacted] can provide new and competent material in their fields and are probably Hungary's best men. None of these persons are qualified to discover new oil fields or to arrive at any revolutionary new ideas in oil exploration techniques or equipment.

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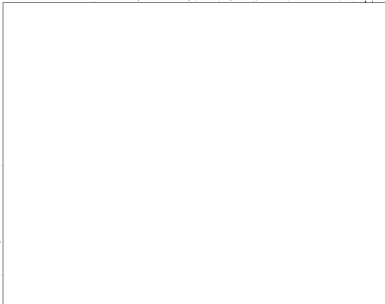
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10. The society still has (1953) many adequately competent scientists who work like slaves and do much research and publication. However, their work shows no revelation or evidence of techniques which will help in oil exploration. For instance, the article in the 1949 Lóczy commemorative issue of Földtani Közleány pretends to discuss important, new geological findings. Actually, the MAORT maps and explorations, prior to 1947, are the basis of the article. In a 1951 issue of the same publication a USSR petroleum man, Varencov, a professor and director of the Moscow Geophysical Survey, reported his observations of Hungarian oil areas and activities. His report contained nothing about discoveries that were not known in 1946 to MAORT personnel.

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