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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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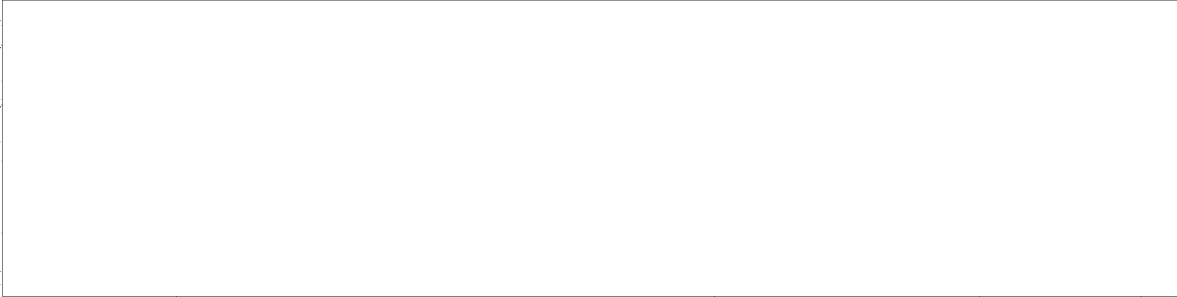
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COUNTRY	Hungary	REPORT	
SUBJECT	<input type="text"/> Military Units, Atomic Explosions, Alleged New Tanks, and Events in the Hungarian Uprising	DATE DISTR.	7 February 1957 25X1
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an eight-page report on the following: (1) The Ninth Mechanized Division and other military units in Hungary, including estimations of manpower, personalities, and equipment. (2) A tabulation of ordnance equipment held by the Ninth Mechanized Division with a breakdown of the Division's components and their locations. (3) An alleged new Soviet Tank in Hungary. (4) Two Top Secret films on two actual Soviet atomic explosions. (5) Events during the Hungarian uprising.



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9 January 1957

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COUNTRY: Hungary

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Hungarian O/B Prior to November 1956

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a. [redacted] the headquarters of the 9th Mechanized Division (9 Gepesített Lovaszeti Had Osztaly) [redacted] was located at Keszthely.

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b. The division was subordinate to the 6th Army Corps (6 Hadttest Parancsnoksag) at Székesfehérvár (N 47-12, E 18-25).

c. The headquarters strength was 100 officers and 150 enlisted men. The estimated strength of the division was 10,000 men and officers. It was "A" type, which supposedly meant that it was fully equipped and of combat strength, but [redacted] one battalion in each of the regiments was either on paper only or had skeleton strength. There were six regiments and the estimated strength of each was 710 men, including 110 officers. Each of the regiments had two full-strength battalions. Each battalion had three companies of 81 men.

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d. [redacted]

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e. The Commanding Officer was Lt. Col. Lajos Feges.

f. Following is a chart of the major items of ordnance equipment held by the division with a breakdown of its components and their locations.

total number of major ordnance items and a detailed breakdown of the 9th Mechanized Infantry Division.

Unit Designation, Location	4 x 4s	1.5 Tons	3 Tons (2 axle)	3 Tons (3 axle)	Misc. Vehcs.	Armd Per. Carrier (Caterpillar)	T-34 (85) SP Guns	SU-76 Guns	Artillery Pieces	Mortars	AT Guns
9th Mecz Div, KESZTHELY	6	27	56	2	23						
33 Mecz Regt, ZALAEGERSZEG (N 46-50, E 16-51)	4	90	21	18	4		7				10-57mm(?)
38 Mecz Regt, TAPOLCA (N 46-53, E 17-26)	4	95	21	21	4		7				18-57mm
32 Mecz Regt, LENTI (N 46-36, E 16-32)	4	64	21	13	4		7				
32 Arty Regt, ZALAEGERSZEG	3	10	42	36	3				36 122mm How (M-30)		
31 Arty Regt, MARCALI (N 46-35, E 17-25)	4	31	14	31	3				36 122mm How (M-30)	18-120mm Mortars	
18 AA Bn, NAGYKANIZSA (N 46-27, E 16-59)	1	2	12	21	1	6			6-85 mm-AA M1939 12-37mm-AA M1939		
58 Armd Arty Bn, TAPOLCA	1	2	5	17					18-76mm M 1942		
27 Armd Regt, TAPOLCA	2		18		14		52				
68 Engr Bn, MARCALI * (N 46-35, E 17-25)	1		5		29	2					
45 Sig Bn, KESZTHELY	2	5	5		16						
6th Ren Co, KESZTHELY	2	3	1								

TOTALS = 855 (not including T-34s, SP Guns, Arty pes, Mortars or AT Guns) 34 329 221 159 101 8 52 21 108 18 28

* This battalion had one wheeled tractor and two caterpillars

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g. [] Col. Antonin Zsarikov, the Soviet adviser to the division, 25X1
 the unit had attained fairly good combat readiness. During 1956
 there were fixed training schedules. Every quarter, one regiment
 had a two to three-day field exercise in which two battalions
 attacked and the third was in a defensive position. Each half-
 year, two regiments had a field exercise, also lasting two to
 three days. In September 1956 the division had an eight-day
 field exercise in which the offensive and steady contact with the
 enemy were especially emphasized. The 9th and 32nd Mechanized
 Infantry Divisions participated in this. The 9th acted as the
 attacking force and was reinforced by two armored regiments, both
 equipped with T-34's. One was stationed in Abasar (N 47-48,
 E 20-00) and the other in Aszod (N 47-39, E 19-29). Several
 units outside of the division provided a total of 106 trucks of
 various types and makes, plus drivers. The 32nd Mechanized
 Infantry Division was not reinforced. The exercise took place in
 the mountainous area near Veszprem (N 47-05, E 17-54) which had
 streams, a forest, and many hills. Communication was effected by
 telephone and by motorcycle messengers. The infantry, supported
 mainly by self-propelled gun units, attacked mostly at night. The
 main objective of the exercise was to keep close contact with the
 enemy which used fixed defensive positions most of the time. There
 were several river crossings at night and N2 P-45 metal boats were
 used to transport the T-34's and self-propelled equipment. Airborne
 attacks were simulated only and little entrenching of troops and
 equipment took place. [] only a few tanks, artillery pieces, 25X1
 and antiaircraft positions. One simulated atomic explosion was demonstrated
 and several thousand liters of oil used. 25X1

2. [] following information about other units.

- a. 33rd Mechanized Regiment, located at Zalaegerszeg. The Commanding Officer was Major Zoctan Borka.
- b. 38th Mechanized Regiment, located at Tapolca. The Commanding Officer was Major Istvan Guszi.
- c. 32nd Mechanized Regiment, located at Lenti (N 46-36, E 16-32). Its Commanding Officer was Lt. Col. Janos Racz.
- d. 32nd Artillery Unit, located at Zalaegerszeg, commanded by Captain Toth (fnu).
- e. 31st Artillery Unit, located at Marcali, commanded by Major Major (fnu).
- f. 18th Antiaircraft Battalion, located at Nagykanisza, commanded by Captain Jozsef Teleki.
- g. 58th Armored Artillery Battalion, located at Tapolca, commanded by 1st Lt. Albert (fnu).
- h. 27th Armored Unit, located at Tapolca, commanded by Major Jozsef Reves.
- i. 68th Engineer Battalion, located at Marcali; the Commanding Officer was unknown.

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- j. 45th Signal Battalion, located at Keszthely, commanded by Captain Jozsef Bedi.
- k. 6th Reconnaissance Company, located at Keszthely; the Commanding Officer was unknown. [redacted] the signal equipment of this unit [redacted] included an unknown number of R3, R7, and R40 radios. There were also several R20 radios but they were considered obsolete and used only for training purposes. 25X1
- l. 6th Corps, located at Szekesfehervar, [redacted]. Subordinate to this corps were the following: 9th Mechanized Division [redacted] the 32nd Mechanized Division, located at Pápa (N 47-20, E 17-28), [redacted]; and the 5th Mechanized Division, located at Esztergom (N 47-47, E 18-45). 25X1
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- m. 3rd Corps, located at Kecskemet (N 46-54, E 19-41). Subordinate to this corps were the following: 8th Mechanized Division, located at Békéscsaba (N 46-39, E 21-05) [redacted] an unidentified mechanized division located at Kiskunfélegyháza (N 46-43, E 19-51); and the 17th Mechanized Division at Kaposvár (N 46-21, E 17-47). [redacted] the 17th Mechanized Division was a type "B" unit and [redacted] the other two, one was type "A" and the other "B" [redacted] 25X1
- n. Unidentified armored division in Gyöngyös (N 47-47, E 19-56) subordinate to an unidentified corps. This division was equipped with T-34 and JS-2 tanks and self-propelled guns.
- o. Unidentified independent artillery unit in Nagykanizsa (N 46-27, E 16-59), equipped with an unknown number of 152 mm Howitzer M 1943s.
- p. Unidentified heavy self-propelled unit in Baj (N 47-39, E 18-22), equipped with an unknown number of 122 mm self-propelled M1943 guns and JS-2 tanks.

Soviet O/B Prior to November 1956

3. [redacted] the following information about unidentified Soviet units. 25X1
- a. Corps Headquarters in Szekesfehervar.
- b. Corps Headquarters in Kecskemet.
- c. Artillery Regiment, located at Dombóvár (N 46-23, E 18-08), and equipped with an unknown number of 82 mm Rocket Launchers.
- d. Artillery Regiment, or Brigade, in Hajmáskér (N 47-09, E 18-01), equipped with an unknown number of 152 mm Howitzer M 1943s and 82 mm Rocket Launchers.
- e. Artillery Regiment and Mechanized Infantry Regiment in Piliscsaba (N 47-37, E 18-49).
4. In June 1955 [redacted] a survey of the Soviet-occupied areas located in Szombathely, Kőszeg (N 47-23, E 16-32), Győr (N 47-41, E 17-38), and Kőrmend (N 47-01, E 16-36) for the purpose of checking 25X1

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the suitability of these areas for possible occupation by the Hungarian 9th Mechanized Division. The Soviets wanted to exchange their posts for that of the 9th Mechanized Division because of an agreement between the Soviet and Hungarian Governments that, after the termination of the Austrian occupation, all Soviet troops were to withdraw approximately 100 kilometers from the Austrian border. [redacted] this agreement involved only the Soviet troops stationed on the Austrian-Hungarian border, and not those stationed in Austria which had been withdrawn, via Hungary, to the USSR. [redacted] Col. Antonin Zsarikov, the Soviet adviser, [redacted] to the division headquarters, and a Soviet major general (name unknown) who was a technical adviser in the Hungarian Ministry of Defense [redacted] inspected the posts of an unidentified armored regiment in Kozseg where [redacted] two tanks referred to by the Soviets as T-54s, an unidentified mechanized infantry regiment in Győr, and an unidentified artillery regiment and two unidentified mechanized infantry regiments in Kormend. [redacted] several MIG-15s and MIG-17s on the Soviet-occupied airfield in Pápa (N 47-20, E 17-28).

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New Soviet Equipment

5. On 4 November, while driving in the vicinity of Keszthely, [redacted] [redacted] approximately 15 Soviet tanks of a new type [redacted] had just arrived in Hungary. These tanks had ~~twin cast-iron track wheels~~, approximately 65 centimeters in diameter. The lower front plate was about 45 centimeters from the ground, instead of 40 centimeters, as is the case in the T-34. The tank was bigger than the T-34. [redacted] estimated [redacted] measurements of the new tank as follows: the overall height was 2.20 m (that of the T-34 is 2.75 m); the width was 3.4 m (that of the T-34 is 3.05 m) the length was 6.70 m (that of the T-34 is 6 m). The same type of AA machine gun as the JS-3 (12.7 mm) was mounted on an elliptically-shaped turret. The barrel of the main armament was estimated to be about three meters long and had a baffle-type muzzle brake; the caliber was 152 mm.

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Soviet Atomic Warfare Films

6. On 15 June 1956 [redacted] unit's representative, saw two top secret films on two actual Soviet atomic explosions which were presented in the Ministry of Defense building in Budapest. Fifty persons attended, including ten Soviet officers who were technical advisers to various Hungarian units, and they were warned not to divulge to anyone what they observed. Each film lasted for several hours and was silent without explanatory titles or captions. A Soviet instructor, who spoke Hungarian fluently, explained the films after they had been shown. One of the explosions took place at night and the bomb exploded immediately above the ground. The demonstration area had hills, a small stream, and vegetation similar to that found in Western European countries. Wood, brick, and concrete buildings, erected in the bomb-blast radius of 60 kilometers, were furnished and were occupied by dummies holding instruments to register the radioactivity. Troops were stationed in trenches at irregular intervals for a distance of five to 30 kilometers from the bomb's epicenter. The troops were dressed in conventional uniforms topped by heavy, protective, chemical trousers, boots, gloves, gas masks, and hoods. Topping all of this was a protective sheet of an unknown type, used for shielding the eyes from the blast. The trenches had an average depth of three meters and were lined with heavy lumber. Various types of equipment, including troop

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carriers and T-34 tanks, were manned by dummies. The demonstration area also had a simulated airfield with two unidentified planes. The second film showed a bomb exploding ~~about 500 meters above the ground~~ by day. The area shown was similar in all respects to that described above. Both films showed the extent of the destruction of the buildings and a close view of a tank in which the dummy was completely burned and the wiring was destroyed to the extent that the tank was of no further use. []

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[] not actually see the atomic bomb nor the aircraft. [] not know the height from which the bomb was dropped and was unable to distinguish the race of the troops except for ten to 15 Caucasians who demonstrated their clothing. The glare factor was especially stressed and instructions given on what to do upon complete loss of eyesight.

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Radar Equipment

7. [] no radar equipment except an old set used by the 18th AA Battalion at Nagykaniska as a training aid.

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Events of 23 October to 4 November 1956 in Hungary

8. [] reported the following incidents during the critical period of 23 October to 4 November:

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a.

[] heard unofficially on 24 October 1956 that an uprising had started in Budapest. During that morning the Division Commanding Officer, Col. Lajos Fejes, ordered the division to be on alert and cancelled all leaves and passes. On 27 October []

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[] formulated plans for a workers-soldiers revolutionary advisory group whose objective was to contact members of Hungarian units located in Pápa, Esztergom, Szekesfehervar, and Kaposvar and organize armed military and civilian groups to fight the AVH and the Soviet troops. However, this plan was not realized because the group gained the impression that the Soviets would leave Hungary peacefully.

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- b. On 24 October Col. Fejes received orders to dispatch two armored regiments, two mechanized infantry regiments, and one artillery battalion from the division to reinforce police units in Budapest. On the following day two battalions of mechanized infantry from Tapolca were also sent to Budapest. Lt. Bella Ujhely, who accompanied the two battalions, returned to Division Headquarters on 27 October and reported that as soon as these units arrived in Budapest (the units from Esztergom reached Budapest on the morning of 26 October and those from Tapolca on the morning of 27 October), they were surrounded by Freedom Fighters whom they joined to fight the Soviets. [] these units lost several artillery pieces subsequently.

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- c. On 4 November Col. Fejes told all officers of the 9th Mechanized Division Headquarters staff that he had received a call from General Lajos Toth at the Ministry of Defense in Budapest, ordering him to dismiss all officers and troops and leave it to the men's discretion to fight the Soviets if they attacked. Most of the soldiers took their weapons with them when they departed. Shortly afterwards the population of the town of Keszthely arrived at the pest and demanded arms. The non-commissioned supply officers turned over all weapons and ammunition on hand. []

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- [REDACTED]
- d. Between 3 and 4 November, [REDACTED] new Soviet armored forces arrive in the vicinity of Keszthely via Komárom (N 47-46, E 18-08), Czechoslovakia. [REDACTED] these troops had come from Poland. [REDACTED] on 4 November there were clashes between the Freedom Fighters and the Soviets, who were Mongolians.

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