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INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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CZECHOSLOVAK MEDICAL INFORMATION (C)

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CZECHOSLOVAK MEDICAL INFORMATION (C)

Introduction

This report contains limited information on various medical topics.

Included are data on: emergency medical services in PRAGUE; locations of the emergency medical centers; Medical Center Nr 11; description of Medical Center Nr 11; the most commonly treated illnesses; emergency dental and ambulance service; CER training and civil defense; civilian and military hospitals in PRAGUE; and other medical topics. This information is based on experiences at Medical Center Nr 11 in PRAGUE from 1952 to 1958. All information in this report is based on personal observation and experience unless otherwise stated.

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Listed below are the names, geographic coordinates, and UTM coordinates of locations used throughout this report. Coordinates are not shown for well-known locations.

Location Geographic Goordinates		UTM Coordinates	
KYNZVART	N50-00, E12-37	UR-2942	
PRIBYSLAV	N49-35, E 15-44	WR-8381	
ROZTOKY	N50-09。 E14-22	VR-5757	

A. EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE IN PRAGUE

1. General Description and Background

For medical service purposes, FRAGUE was divided into 15 districts, and each district was provided with an emergency medical service center. Prior to 1954, the entire emergency service system was administered and controlled by a central headquarters located in the Frague Polyclinic on Farlova Square in the Second District in FRAGUE. Central direction and administration, however, preved to be very confusing and difficult, particularly with respect to the assignment of personnel to operate the emergency medical centers.

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In 1954, direction of the medical centers was delegated to the districts which resulted in better control.

from 1954 until his defection he was detailed for duty only in Medical Center Nr 11 located in the district in which he lived. Each district medical center was directed and administered by a medical director, assisted by a senior nurse. The director was responsible for the establishment, support, and staffing of his medical center. He had at his disposal all of the general practitioners and specialists who lived in his district. Also available were those medical personnel living in his district who were engaged in teaching medicine or in medical research. However, these latter personnel participated in the emergency medical program on a voluntary basis and were permitted to choose the nights and week-ends they wished to work.

The emergency medical service was established to provide emergency treatment for the civilian populace during normal off-duty hours. When the service was initiated, the work lead of the centers was rather light. As time went by, the work load became increasingly heavier, not because the number of emergency cases was increasing, but because the people were abusing the service by reporting for

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treatment with minor or non-emergency complaints. They did this because they did not have to wait as long for emergency treatment as they would for normal treatment. As a result, the work load of the emergency medical centers had become quite heavy by 1958.

The medical centers were established in doctors' offices where available, in homes, and in some cases in specially constructed and equipped clinics. Most of the centers were established in homes or in regular apartments. Each center was staffed, from 1700 of one day to 0700 the next day, by one doctor, one nurse, and a driver. On week-ends, from 1200 Saturday to 0700 Monday, the centers were staffed by two doctors, one or two nurses, and a driver.

2. Locations of the Emergency Medical Centers in FRAGUE (See Annex A for pinpeint location.)

medical centers were printed for ready reference on the top of the inside of the frent cever in the Prague Telephone Directory. The centers were located as follows (the numbers cerrespond to the number of the center on Annex A):

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District

Street

Vrsovicke Namesti

Nad Olsinami

	MARTINE	Street	
1.	Stare Mesto	Dlouha Trida	
2.	Karlin	Klimentska Ulice	
3.	Nove Mesto	Jungmannova Ulice	
4.	Smi chov	Pechackova	
5 .	Kosire	Erbenova	
6.	Nusle	Taborska	
7.	Brevnov	Betchorska	
8.	Dejvice	Namesti Rijnove Revoluc	
9.	Holesovice	Plaminkove	
10.	Id ben	Vosmikovych	
11.	Ziskov	Husitska 63	
12.	Vinehrad y	Blanicka	
13.	Vysocany	Sokolovska	

3. Experiences at Medical Center Nr 11

Vrsovice

Strasnice

14.

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District Nr 11 had a population of approximately 115,000. the work load at Medical Center Nr 11 was quite heavy. For example the week-end of 25 and 26 December 1957. During that 2-day period,

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treated 798 patients. despite the heavy work load, required to treat each patient conscientiously, and to be extremely polite and courteous to them whatever their ailment. Patients could quite easily prefer charges against the doctors for any slight, either real or imagined.	50X1-HUM 50X1-HUM
Medical Center Nr 11 was the largest of the medical centers that were not located in either a regular doctor's office or in a specially constructed clinic. most of the centers that fell into this group were set up in two or three rooms of a private house or an apartment building. Center Nr 11 occupied four rooms, an entire apartment, in a large tenement house. One of the rooms was approximately 4 x 5 m, furnished with benches, and used as a patients waiting room. A second room, approximately 4 x 8 m, was used as a reception room and as sleeping quarters for the nurse. The room was partitioned, with a desk and achair as the only furnishings in the portion serving as the reception room, and a cot for the nurse set up behind the partition. The third room, approximately 3 x 3 m, was primarily used as the consultation room, but was also partitioned to provide sleeping quarters for the driver. The consultation room was firmished with an antiquated gynecological table, a couch, and an instrument cabinet. The fourth room, approximately 2 x 3 m, was used by the doctor as sleeping quarters. The antire center was inadequately furnished. This center did not have running hot water until 1957. Most of the centers still do not have running hot water.	
The medical equipment at Medical Center Nr 11 was government-owned and consisted of a broken blood pressure apparatus, a stethoscope, a small steriliser, and a supply of bandages, gause, and medicaments. Suturing needles were included in the center's equipment, but they were all either rusty or dirty. The center had no splints and no ophthalmoscope. The emergency medical centers were nothing more than consultation rooms, and all really necessary treatment was done at hospitals to which the doctors referred the patients. Each medical center was assigned an ambulance or an automobile, primarily to be used by the doctor for making calls. The basic and most commonly used medicaments were available in the medical centers. Any necessary medicine not available would be procured from a pharmacy	50X1-HUM
Senters. Any necessary medicine not available would be procured from a pharmacy by the patient upon a doctor's prescription. However, the doctors were limited in the amount of medicines and drugs they could prescribe. For example, Medical Senter Nr 11 was normally authorised ten million units of penicillin per night. This amount was usually expended within a few hours, even though prescribed in small mounts. If the authorised amount was exceeded, the price of the overage would be leducted from the salary of the doctor.	1

5. Breakdown by Percentages of the Types of Complaints Treated by Source

Based on experiences with the emergency medical centers in FRAQUE,

the following percentage breakdown of the types of complaints treated,

principally at Center Nr 11, during 1957 and 1958:

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Thirty percent of the patients were treated for influensa (seasonal), pneumonia (bacterial and virus), rheumatic fever (in ever increasing numbers), rhinitis, and bronchitis.

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Ten percent of patients were children suffering from diphtheria (seasonal), measles, searlatina (searlet fever), mumps (in increasing numbers), while that cosably decreasing in the past two years), streptococcal infections, and whosping cough.

Five percent of the patients were infants suffering from dysentery, hepatitis, meningitis, mononucleosis, and endemic typhoid.

Five percent of the patients treated were suffering from acute abdominal ailments such as cholecystitis, lithiasis, and appendicitis.

Five percent of the patients were treated for apoplexy and heart the diseases (very frequent and increasing in numbers).

Fifteen percent of the patients were treated for chronic diseases such as principal (increasing in number), heart diseases (increasing in number), and diabetes (also in increasing numbers).

Ten percent of the patients were treated for neurological complaints and were increasing in numbers, particularly the psychoneurosis and alcoholic patients.

Five percent of the patients were treated for injuries arising from accidents or criminal actions, accidental or deliberate intoxications, and attempted suicides (in increasing numbers, particularly among the older people).

Fifteen percent of the patients were treated for miscellaneous diseases including venereal diseases (in increasing numbers), ascariasis and hookworm, scabies (very few cases), and other skin diseases.

6. Emergency Dental Service and Ambulance Service in PRAGUE

Emergency Dental Station (For pinpoint location, see Item 16, Annex A.)

The only emergency dental service was located in the Nove Mesto District of FRAGUE. It was established in a tenement building and was equipped to handle only those cases that could be treated by extraction or temporary filling. Cases requiring more extensive treatment or surgery were referred to a hospital.

Patient Ambulance Service (For pinpoint location, see Item 17, Annex A.)

This ambulance station usually had three ambulances available for use.

Emergency Ambulance Service (For pinpoint location, see Item 18, Annex A.)

This ambulance station had one, and sometimes two, ambulances on duty. These ambulances were reserved for the transport of patients who required emergency treatment.

B. CER TRAINING AND CIVIL DEFENSE

1. Organisation, Operations, and Plans

issued by the Ministry of Education, a CER and Civil Defense (CD) training program was initiated by and only for the Medical Faculty of Charles University in FRAGUE.

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The CBR portion of the training dealt largely with defense against atomic and biological attack, while the CD aspect treated the organization and operation of civilian emergency and disaster teams.

Because of the poor organization, the careless and indifferent handling of what little equipment was available (see par 3, below), and because of the lack of a workable attendance control system, the training program from its inception received no backing from either the dean or the majority of the members of the medical faculty. The individual entrusted with the task of presenting lectures on atomic defense was a young and relatively inexperienced member of the medical faculty who, quite obviously, referred to neither outline nor lecture notes, and who apparently based his presentations on what he could get out of miscellaneous and unofficial publications. This individual limited his treatment of the subject of radiological warfare to a movie of unknown origin which showed the destructive effects of the atomic bombing of HIROSHIMA.

Lectures on defense against biological warfare were to be given in two 1-hour periods each month by Professor KUBELKA, (fnu), Chief of the Antibiotic Department of the Microbiological Institute. KUBELKA, however, admitted in his first hour that he had never received any instruction or training in biological warfare, and therefore would devote his time to lectures on the prevention of epidemical diseases.

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all the presentations were oral, without any demonstrations or audience participation in the practical exercises.

plan centered around 4 teams of The Medical Faculty's Civil Defense 15 persons each: firefighting team, medical team, chemical defense team and auxiliary police team. One air raid drill was held annually.

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What little equipment was available to the CD organisation was quite primitive. There were no radiation counters or chemical detector kits; the 4 teams had a total of about 15 obsolete WW II OD-type gas masks.

The fall of 1957an air waid drill was held in the courtyard of Charles University's Anatomical Institute and was observed by two unidentified Osechoslovak Army officers, one of whom was a female. members of the fire- 50X1-HUM fighting team wore overalls and helmets, and carried picks; nurses were dressed in the regulation nurses uniforms; and two or three of the members of the chemical defense team were dressed in light decontamination coveralls and were equipped with gas masks.

The "air raid" was signalled by a manually operated siren, after which the drill director, a member of the staff, announced that a bomb had just exploded in the courtyard and directed the chemical defense team to survey the area. A chemical defense team member, dressed in unidentified protective clothing and carrying a wooden box which simulated a radiation counter, surveyed the center of the court-yard, while another member of the same team, similarly clothed but equipped with a simulated pump-like apparatus, checked the contamination of the air.

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the dean of the School of Dentistry, an elderly gentleman, was selected to thank all participants in the drill for an impressive performance.	50X1-HUM 50X1-HUM
and had been far superior to past drills conducted by other faculties of the university.	50X1-HUM
2. Training and Functions of the Medical Team	
members of the medical team received no special instruction or training in treating injuries resulting from chemical, biological or radiological attacks. It was generally assumed that medical team personnel, in a situation calling for treatment of mass wounded, would function in capacities similar to their routine work assignment.	50X1-HUM
3. Equipment and Functions of the Chemical Defense Team	
The chemical defense team had no equipment other than that mentioned in paragraph 1 above. Surfaces contaminated by chemical agents were to be covered with sand, which was available for that purpose. the chemical defense team had no standing operating procedure. the efficiency of the entire CD program could be illustrated by the fact that what little equipment was available to the chemical defense team was stored in a small room in the Pediatrics Clinic. When this room was converted to a toilet,	50X1-HUM
the equipment was literally thrown out into the corridor.	50X1-HUM
4. Production and Stockpiling of Pharmaceutics no local stockpiling, but medical supplies would,	50X1-HUM
in the event of an emergency, be available as needed from SPOFA, the national pharmaceutical distributing agency. only three producers of antibiotics, vaccines and other pharmaceutical products; these were located in ROZTOKY ROUDNICE, and OLOMOUC.	50X1-HUM 50X1-HUM
5. Shortage of Hospital Space in FRAGUE	
In spite of the fact that metropolitan FRAGUE lacked enough hospital beds to accommodate normal needs, loubted that GD plans included any provisions for the expansion of hospital facilities. Rural areas were in a more faverable position, since only about 90 percent of their available beds were in use at any one time.	50X1-HUM
C. CIVILIAN AND MILITARY HOSPITALS IN FRAGUE	
1. General Hospital, Second District, Nemocnice Ulice (See Item 19, Annex A)	
it had a total capacity of 2.500 bads.	50X1-HUM
it had two surgical clinics, four internal medicine clinics, one ENT clinic, two ophthalmic clinics, one X-ray clinic, one dermatological clinic, or neurological clinic, and one psychiatric clinic. Most of the clinics were housed	10

in separate buildings.

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2. Vinohradska Hospital. Twelfth District (See Item 20. Annex A for pinpoint location)	
had been established about 1928. estimated bed capacity to be a maximum of	50X1-HUN
1,000. Besides a number of unknown facilities, this hospital had a surgical clinic and possibly a plastic surgery clinic.	,
3. Bulovka Hospital. Idben District. Bulovka Ulice (See Item 21. Annex A)	
estimated bed capacity of this hospital 1,500.	50X1-HUM
one ophthalmic clinic, one radiological clinic, and a clinic for infectious diseases. All clinics were housed in separate buildings.	
4. Na Frantiska Hospital. Stare Mesto District. Na Frantiska Ulice (See Item 22. Annex A)	
This was one of FRAGUE's oldest hospitals. It had an estimated bed capacity of 300. This hospital had a department for internal diseases, and one surgical department. most of the emergency patients from Emergency Medical Center Nr 11 requiring surgery were referred to this hospital.	50X1-HUN
5. Institute for Mother and Child (Ustav pro Matka a Dite). Vysehrad District, Podolskeho Sanatoria Ulice (See Item 23. Annex A)	
This hospital was established in about 1938. Its obstetrics. maternity, and pediatric clinics had an estimated capacity of 200 beds. In addition to patient treatment, the personnel of this institute specialised in obstetrical, pediatric, and maternity research.	
6. Apolinar Hospital. Nove Mesto District. Apolinarson Ulice(See Item 24.	
capacity of this hospital to be 100 beds. This hospital specialised in the treatment of internal disorders and diseases.	50X1-HUM
7. Pod Patrinum Hospital, Mala Strawa District (See Item 25, Annex A)	
This was a general hospital with an estimated capacity of 300 beds. This hospital had three major departments, which included an internal medicine department, one surgical department, and one (possibly) neurological department.	ີ 50X1-HUM

8. Padiatrics Hospital. Second District. Karlov Namesti Ulice (See Item 26, Annex A)

This hospital was established in 1920 and had an estimated capacity of 800 beds. It had two internal medicine clinics, two surgical clinics, and one ENT clinic. Each clinic was housed in a separate building.

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9. Unidentified Military Hospital. Stresovice District. Vojenske Ulice (See Item 27. Annex A) This hospital was constructed in 1938; it had an estimated bed capacity of 1,500. 50X1-HUM not only military patients were treated here, but civilian patients as well. However, different consultation hours were established for military and civilian outpatient treatment. 50X1-HUM 10. Krc Hospital, Krc District This hospital building was originally constructed as a home for the aged sometime prior to WW II. During the war, it was remodeled and converted into a military hospital. 50X1-HUM The hospital had several unidentified clinics, all housed in separate build-50X1-HUM ings. The estimated capacity of this hospital was 1,000 beds. 11. Motol Hospital. Motol District 50X1-HUM the capacity of this hospital was 1,000 beds. D. MISCELLANEOUS MEDICAL SUBJECTS 1. Shortage of Dental Drills 50X1-HUM there was a serious shortage of dental drills of all sizes. This shortage existed in varying degrees since 1952, and was attributed to the lack of trained precision mechanics capable of manufacturing such drills. 2. Availability of Medical Literature. Including Western Idterature 50X1-HUM Western medical literature, including textbooks and periodicals, was available but in limited quantities only. The lack of material was attributed to a lack of funds. even private 50X1-HUM subscriptions or publications addressed to an individual were diverted to a special censorship office, after which the publication would be forwarded to a public institution and placed in its library. If the individual wanted to read the publication initially addressed to him, he had to borrow it from that library. Most of the medical institutes in FRAGUE had library facilities containing some Western medical literature. the following in-50X1-HUM stitutes:

The Center of Medical Life (Lekarsky D_{Max}), Second District, Sokolska Ulice

This Center contained a library of scientific literature and carried a limited selection of Western medical textbooks and journals.

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The Library of the Faculty of General Medicine, Second District, 50X1-HUM Katerinska Ulice 32

This library contained a selection of general medical publications as well as a limited and insufficient number of medern textbooks and Western medical literature.

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The Library of Charles University, Klementinum, Stare Mesto District

This library had a large selection of "classical" medical textbooks and publications, but a very limited number of modern textbooks and Western literature.

The Library of the Academy of Sciences, First (or Second) District

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it was very modern and kept an up-to-date selection of medical publications from all major nations.

3. Pay Scale of Medical Personnel

The monthly salary of medical teaching personnel was as follows:

Associate Professor (Docent)1,700 to 2,500 crowns, plus 35 crowns for each child.

Married individuals paid a monthly income tax of 200 to 300 Growns, while single personnel paid 600 to 700 Growns. In addition to the income tax, a tax of about one percent was deducted for contributions to professional associations, and an unknown amount was levied for sickness compensation and eld age benefits.

The pay scale for medical personnel actively practicing was:

Senior (hospital) physician (Primarius).....2,000 to 2,800 crowns

Junior (hespital) physician (Secundarius).... 800 to 1,500 crowns

Aspirant (Studying for Candidate of Science). 1,200 to ? crowns

The salary of dentists ranged between 800 and 2,800 growns and, depending upon the individual's qualifications, was comparable to that paid to private practitioners, junior physicians, and senior physicians.

Head nurses received 600 to 1,000 growns; laboratory technicians, 600 to 1,300 growns.

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4. Paid Vacations

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5. Bleed Dener Station and Blood Bank in PRAGUE

The bleed dener station and bleed bank was located in the Second District of PRAGUE, Nemocnice Ulice, and consisted of a room with autoclaves and other sterilising equipment, a room for taking bleed, and a laboratory. Until 1958, bleed was accepted from deners, if in sound health, at any time; from 1958 on, it seemed that the bank had sufficient reserves on hand, since potential deners were registered and called upon as the need arese.

denors were called upon to give bleed at intervals of appreximately three months, but did not know the number of doners processed in one day or the volume of the blood bank's reserves. For each 500 cc of bleed, of which 50 cc was used for laboratory testing, donors were given a cup of coffee and a piece of sausage and were paid 200 crowns.

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Legend to Annex A

1. Emergency Medical Center, Stare Mesto, Dlouha Trida

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- 2. Emergency Medical Center, Karlin, Klimentska Ulice
- 3. Emergency Medical Center, Nove Mesto, Jungmannova Ulice
- 4. Emergency Medical Center, Smichev, Pechackova (?)
- 5. Emergency Medical Center, Kosire, Erbenova
- 6. Emergency Medical Center, Nusle, Taborska
- 7. Emergency Medical Center, Brevnov, Betchorska
- 8. Emergency Medical Center, Dejvice, Namesti Rijnove Revoluce
- 9. Emergency Medical Center, Holesovice, Plaminkove
- 10. Emergency Medical Center, Liben, Vosmekosych
- 11. Emergency Medical Center, Ziskov, Husitika 63
- 12. Emergency Medical Center, Vinehrady, Blanicka
- 13. Emergency Medical Center, Vysocany, Sckelevska
- 14. Emergency Medical Center, Vrsovice, Vrsovicke Namesti
- 15. Emergency Medical Center, Strasnice, Nad Olsinami
- 16. Emergency Dental Station, Nove Mesto, Jungmannova Ulice
- 17. Patient Ambulance Service, Liben, Vosmikovych Ulice
- 18. Emergency Ambulance Service
- 19. General Hospital, Nove Mesto, Nemocnice Ulice
- 20. Vinohradska Hospital, Kral Vinohrady
- 21. Bulovka Hospital, Liben, Bulovka Ulice
- 22. Na Frantiska, Stare Mesto, Na Frantiska Ulice
- 23. Institute for Mother and Child, Vysehrad, Podolskeho Sanatoria Ulice
- 24. Apolinar Hospital, Nove Mesto, Apolinarska Ulice
- 25. Pod Petrinem, Mala Strana
- 26. Pediatrics Hospital, Nove Mesto, Karlov Namesti
- 27. Military Hospital, Stresovice, Vojenske Ulice

