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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT NO. [redacted]

COUNTRY Hungary
SUBJECT Status of Medical Research

50X1
DATE DISTR. 14 Aug '53
NO OF PAGES 6

PLACE ACQUIRED [redacted]
DATE ACQUIRED BY [redacted]
DATE OF [redacted]

NO. OF ENCLS. (LISTED BELOW)
SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO. 50X1

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

1. Prior to the Communist takeover in Hungary, medical research was subsidized by a number of different private agencies. Although some of the funds supplied by these agencies originated with the Hungarian government, nevertheless, their actual administration was handled by the private agencies which distributed them. Perhaps the best known of these agencies was the Prince Eszterhazy Foundation. There were also banks and various individuals who contributed funds for research through various private agencies as is at present the case in the US. There was also a Hungarian organization similar to the US National Research Council and another council which controlled the granting of foreign research fellowships. All of these research organizations became centralized in 1948 or 1949 and at present [1953] the only agency having charge of research is the Hungarian Academy of Sciences which is of course completely politically dominated and is essentially a government agency. Its president is Istvan Ruzsnyak [redacted] who is also a member of the Hungarian Supreme Soviet. Vice presidents are Tibor Erdey-Gruz who is Minister of Education and Pal Gombas who is Professor of Theoretical Physics at the Polytechnical Institute in Budapest. The control of this one agency over research is absolute and includes the appointment of people to various positions, the financial support of research programs and even decisions as to the nature of the research projects to be undertaken. Hardly any researchers are given authority as far as individual initiative is concerned except some of the older well-established men who continue running their own affairs to a limited extent.

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2. The Hungarian Academy of Sciences has a very mixed membership. Some of the older members who joined either because of pressure or for opportunistic reasons are very good professionally since they received their training under the old system. Ninety per cent of the members, however, have been relatively newly elected and of this group [redacted] only about one half are good scientists. The rest are purely political.

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3. The present [1953] tendency of Hungarian research, as might be expected, is to imitate Soviet scientific theory to as great an extent as possible including complete acceptance of its dogmas, e.g. Michurin and Lyssenko in biology and Pavlov's "neurism" in physiology and medicine. Hungarian scientists of prominence and integrity have been forced publicly to support these theories. In the clinical research fields, professors and lecturers have been brought from the USSR for indoctrination purposes. Surprisingly enough, however, [redacted] these Soviet professors and lecturers were retained in their positions in Hungary but returned to the USSR after they had served their purpose.
4. In spite of this domination of Hungary by the Soviets in the field of scientific theory, [redacted] Soviet science has made much of an imprint on Hungarian medical science. Traditionally, [redacted] most Hungarian research work on clinical subjects and some on the theoretical subjects has been influenced by German science. There are, of course, exceptions to this. Research in physiology and biochemistry, for example, followed British patterns rather closely and in the fields of neurology and neurosurgery, US influence was most pronounced.
5. In post World War II Hungarian medical research, the emphasis is on practical results and tremendous efforts have been made to forge ahead in fields in which Hungarian medicine has lagged behind. [redacted]
- [redacted] the following fields are receiving special emphasis:
- The problems and production of antibiotics.
 - Blood substitutes and a coordinated regional blood bank program. [redacted] how successful the latter has been since attempts have been underway for two years to organize this program.
 - Work under Mihaly Gerendas on blood coagulating agents.
 - Development of various drugs used in the treatment of TB which is, of course, Hungary's No 1 killer. Some streptomycin is being used in this treatment but [redacted] it is imported. Drugs which have been developed and are being produced in Hungary for this treatment include rimifon (sp) which is similar to the US hydrazid and PAS (para-amino-salycilic acid) plus others.
 - Work by Bruno Straub and associates on muscular physiology.
6. Prior to the Communist takeover Hungarian hospitals as a rule were under the over-all supervision of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and the university clinics and medical schools were under the Ministry of Education. In 1946 the Ministry of Public Welfare took over the department of hospitals from the Inner Affairs Ministry but the medical schools still continued under the Ministry of Education. There has been another change within the last six months or so and I believe that both hospitals and medical schools are now [1953] under one single ministry.
7. The leading institutions where medical research is carried on in Hungary today [1953] are the following:
- Medical faculty of the University of Budapest (Orvosi Fakoltas, Eötvös Lorand Tudományegyetem). Research here is centered in the theoretical and clinical research departments. In general these are fairly well equipped except that following World War II the Soviets removed a great deal of scientific equipment and [redacted] all of this has not been replaced. The university

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received very little damage during World War II. [redacted] all of the addresses of all the research organizations within the university since as is the case with many US medical schools, research is located at various hospital clinics throughout the city. Conditions described here for the University of Budapest are also in general true for the other three Hungarian medical schools, i.e. Pecs, Szeged and Debrecen.

- b. National Institute of Public Health (Orszagos Közegészségügyi Intezet), Gyali ut 1, Budapest. This splendidly equipped institution was set up by the Rockefeller Foundation in the 1930's and combines research facilities for public health, bacteriology and virus research with a very good school for public health nurses. It was slightly damaged during World War II, [redacted] 50X1
- c. Central Research Institute (Központi Kutató Intezet), Üllői ut 90-96 (?), Budapest [redacted] was established in Budapest in 1950 for the sole purpose of centralizing university and other research. [redacted] 50X1
[redacted] it is well equipped. 50X1
- d. "Phylaxia", Budapest. This drug firm has large research facilities and is the chief source of Hungarian research in immunology and antibiotics. [redacted] it has recently been enlarged. 50X1
- e. State Biological Research Institute (Állami Biológiai Kutató Intezet) Tihany, (Lake Balaton). At this place basic scientific problems are investigated. Work of this kind is being done in the fields of physiology, genetics, and soil bacteria. The institute was not damaged in World War II and is very well equipped.

8. In general Hungarian research facilities are adequately equipped for their present research programs except in those fields in which Hungarian science has lagged behind. Particularly bad in this respect is research on biophysics since neither radio-isotopes or any equipment is available. As far as other fields are concerned very complicated instruments and very simple instruments are available in sufficient quantity to meet present needs. The reason for this is that the very simple instruments are being produced in Hungary and money has been made available for purchase abroad, especially in Sweden and Switzerland, of the very complicated instruments such as electron-microscopes. There has, however, been a definite shortage of standard but more complicated equipment, if this distinction can be drawn. Such equipment was formerly imported from Germany where, of course, the quality was best and the price lowest. At least until recently, no German imports in quantity have been possible. Those few Hungarian production facilities equipped to manufacture this equipment such as the Gamma Factory were socialized and as a result the quality and quantity of their production were vastly reduced. This shortage includes the following:

- a. Microscopes and most optical material
b. Cameras, photo appliances and x-ray film
c. Microtomes
d. Some analytical glassware

[redacted] nothing worthwhile in the scientific apparatus line has been sent from the USSR.

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9. Specific scientific apparatus available in Hungarian research laboratories include the following:

- a. Electron-microscope. There are at least two of these at the University of Budapest which were imported, [redacted] from Sweden and one at the Central Research Institute. 50X1
- b. Tiselius electrophoretic apparatus. There is at least one at the Central Research Institute and another at Bruno Straub's laboratory. There are probably others.
- c. Ultracentrifuge. [redacted] whether this instrument is available. There were none as of 1947. 50X1
- d. Warburg Manometer. These are standard equipment in all institutes of physics and chemistry. There are, [redacted] seven or eight available at the medical school at the University of Budapest alone. 50X1
- e. Freeze drying equipment. [redacted] this is available at the Central Research Institute. 50X1
- f. Phase microscope. [redacted] this instrument is available at the Institute of Pathology and Anatomy at the University of Budapest and perhaps elsewhere. 50X1

Of the above instruments only Warburg manometers are produced in Hungary. The rest have been imported, until 1945 from Germany and more recently from Sweden and Switzerland.

- 10. Hungarian medical research laboratories are probably fairly well stocked with chemicals except in some fields. There is, for example, probably now [1953] a shortage of certain aniline dyes which were formerly imported from Germany. Although most laboratories had large stockpiles of these dyes, [redacted] a shortage is now developing. Routine glassware is probably in adequate supply but the more intricate kind is probably not generally available. There is [redacted] a definite shortage of x-ray film throughout the country. [redacted] how much of the relatively small supply of film is allocated to medical research. Standard medical instruments are probably available in adequate amounts but, as is the case with laboratory instruments, there is probably a definite shortage of the more intricate medical instruments especially those involving optical systems such as cystoscopes. 50X1

- 11. Since the entire Hungarian Hospital and out-patient system has been socialized, from the practical point of view every hospital patient or out-patient is available for research whether he or she wishes to be or not. In addition, as was the case even before the Communists took over, every hospital patient who dies is available for obligatory autopsy. 50X1

- 12. There are more people in Hungarian research today than ever before because the present Communist regime in Hungary favors research with all possible means. In addition, research workers enjoy a very prominent position in Hungarian society and are similar in status and salary to "people's artists" and "people's writers". To be assigned to research work is an enviable position. In addition to high salaries, additional funds in the form of prizes are also available to such individuals. There has been, however, a distinct decline in the quality of Hungarian research partly due to a much deteriorated level of education and partly because the selection of people for both medical schools and research positions has been based entirely on politics. On the basis of a number of Hungarian medical papers [redacted] impression is that none of the contributors of any value to Hungarian medical journals are less than 35 years old and that the best production is from people who had already started in research before World War II. This does not speak too well for the future of Hungarian medical research since all good research people start being productive at a much younger age than 35. 50X1

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- 50X1 13. There has always been a shortage in Hungary of trained laboratory technicians and [] no reason why this situation should have improved under the Communists.
- 50X1 14. [] Hungarian medical scientists have access to medical journals from the USSR, US, Germany, Scandinavia, France and the UK, in numbers probably in that order. The university libraries are, of course, particularly well stocked. The largest medical library is the one attached to the medical faculty of the University of Budapest and is located at Ullői út 24-26. It used to contain the best journal in each medical field from each of the countries listed above. Although foreign journals are not generally available in summary in the Hungarian language, practically all researchers, at least prior to 1947, were able to read them in the original languages except for Russian which only very few were able to read in spite of the propaganda to the effect that they can. In general, US and Scandinavian journals were the most popular.
15. There are a number of medical journals published in Hungary. [] 50X1
specifically the following all of which [] within the last two 50X1
years:
- a. Orvosok Lapja (Physician's Journal) This is the official organ of the Hungarian Physicians' Trade Union and is published either weekly or bi-weekly in the Hungarian language only. It was started in 1945 and is pure Communist party line.
 - b. Honvédervos (Military Physician) This is the official organ of the Hungarian Army Medical Corps and is a continuation of a similar publication which was started a long time before the Communist takeover. It is fair in quality and is published either monthly or bi-monthly in the Hungarian language only.
 - c. Sebészet (Surgery) This journal, which appears either monthly or bi-monthly, is published [] by the Hungarian Academy. 50X1
It appears [] to be pretty good. Although the articles themselves are printed in Hungarian, abstracts in French, German, English and Russian are also furnished.
 - d. Acta Physiologica Hungarica is published monthly or bi-monthly in the international languages (French, German, English and Russian) and does not even furnish Hungarian abstracts. [] 50X1
[] it is a good journal.
 - e. Acta Paediatrica Danubiana, also appearing monthly or bi-monthly, contains articles in the international languages. It seems also to be pretty good.
 - f. Acta Medica Hungarica, also appearing monthly or bi-monthly and containing articles in the international languages, is, [] published by the Hungarian Academy and is good.
 - g. Orvosi Hetilap (Medical Weekly) is a continuation of a publication which has been published in Hungary for almost a hundred years. It is either a weekly or a bi-weekly and is the Hungarian equivalent of the US American Medical Association Journal.
 - h. Szemészet (Ophthalmology) is published monthly or bi-monthly in Hungarian with summaries in the international languages. It is only fair.

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16. Prior to the Communist takeover, good medical textbooks in Hungary were available on all theoretical and clinical subjects. The modern ones were all written in the late 1930's or early 1940's and are, therefore, reasonably up to date on clinical matters. A fair indication of their quality is the fact that many of them were translated into German, French, and English. [redacted] these books are still now [1953] in general use although copies are undoubtedly getting scarce and very expensive because no more editions of them have been printed since World War II. The editing of medical textbooks is now a function of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences whereas formerly this work was done either by private publishing companies or by the so-called Medical Publishing Company which was university controlled. [redacted] new textbooks are being prepared by the Academy and that these are being written by the same individuals who wrote the earlier textbooks. It is, therefore, probable that these are good but probably they contain a large amount of political material not present in the earlier books.

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17. Although correspondence between Hungarian scientists and foreign scientists has been definitely restricted, it has not been completely abolished. [redacted] it is possible for Hungarian scientists to write articles for French, Austrian and Scandinavian scientific journals.

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18. [redacted] no profound recent changes in the curriculum of Hungarian medical schools [redacted] it is essentially the same as before 1945 except for the addition of political subjects. Hungary, of course, follows the gymnasium system rather than the US college system. Students planning to go into medicine spend two additional years in a gymnasium followed by six years in a university including five years of courses and a year of rotating internship. The first two years of this latter period include only courses in the basic sciences, while the next three cover clinical subjects plus pathology, bacteriology, public health and forensic medicine. Prior to 1945 about 40 per cent of the Hungarian medical school graduates went on to specialize. This procedure was similar to that in the US, i.e. residence at an approved hospital for three to four years before qualifying as a specialist. [redacted] this situation is probably about the same under the Communists.

19. Prior to the Communist takeover, foreign training was almost a must for a Hungarian physician who considered himself well trained. Since 1947, however, it has not been possible for Hungarian physicians to receive such foreign training except, of course, in the USSR and the number of physicians receiving such training has been very small, perhaps no more than two dozen or so per year. [redacted] one individual who received such a fellowship. He was a physiologist and applied to the Hungarian government in 1946 for permission to get post-graduate training in this field in the UK. His application was approved except instead of the UK his appointment was set up for the USSR. Although he certainly did not want to go, he finally decided that it was better to do so in order to avoid trouble and he spent one year to 14 months at the Orbeli Institute in Leningrad. [redacted] after his return and he reported that the conditions of the Hungarian students who made this trip were miserable. They were quartered in barracks which were badly heated and badly lighted. They were underfed and were not paid enough to support themselves and had to take menial positions to increase their income.

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