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PREPARED AND DISSEMINATED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

COUNTRY
Hungary

SUBJECT
Techniques and Weapons Used by Freedom Fighters/
Encounters with Hungarian Army, Security Police,
Soviet Army During Revolution

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT # 25X1

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1.

[Redacted]

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The techniques used by the Freedom Fighters were primitive, but successful especially against tanks. In the towns, Soviet tanks, mostly T-34 and Josef Stalin types, prowled the streets, and the insurgents tried to incapacitate these whenever possible. Their chief purpose was to get the Soviet drivers to emerge from the tanks, in which case they were summarily shot. We used:

a. The "Molotov cocktail", made of any litre-sized bottle filled with regular gasoline, thrown from the windows or entrances of buildings and aimed at the motor of a tank.

(1) Chemistry students in the University of Budapest manufactured some phosphorous "Molotov cocktails", by mixing gas and other explosives to increase the effectiveness of the weapon. [Redacted] 25X1

[Redacted] 25X1

b. Bottles of nitroglycerin dropped from windows of tanks. The Freedom Fighters got the nitroglycerin from factories, [Redacted] 25X1

c. Flame grenades. Those the Freedom Fighters captured were of Soviet make; they were stored in the Hungarian Army barracks and we took them from there. If thrown against an object the grenade ignites, though it is not particularly effective against modern Soviet tanks. It is the size of an average thermos bottle, made of a light metal, and can be attached to a belt. This weapon may have an official name [Redacted] 25X1 the Hungarian army officers called it "lang granat", that is "flame grenade", and it was used principally by the infantry. The Freedom Fighters did not find it useful in urban conflict; they used some flame grenades in the

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countryside fighting, though not generally since very few [redacted] knew how to use them.

d. Explosive grenades. There are two types of these, [redacted] 25X1 known by the symbol of a letter of the alphabet [redacted]

[redacted] "F" plus one and plus 25X1 two, ie the "F-1" and the "F-2". 25X1

(1) The first [redacted] "F-1") was used to explode tanks. It is far lighter 25X1 in weight than the second, it is about four inches in diameter, and it has a high air pressure. It is similar to the German grenade of World War II.

(2) The second grenade (we will call it the "F-2") has iron walls, so that, when exploded, its fragments reach a radius as wide as 250 yards. Consequently the hurler must make sure he is under adequate shelter before throwing it. It contains a very strong explosive (we assumed it was "3-2" [redacted] 25X1 [redacted] about the size of a goose egg. It is somewhat smaller but on the order of the US 25X1 "egg grenade".

e. There is a third type of Hungarian hand grenade with a handle. It was used during the revolution in both rural and urban fighting. If hurled strategically under the chain treads of a tank, it could do great damage, though not annihilate the tank. It was used by the Hungarian Army during World War II, and was called by the Army, the nyeleg granat ("grenade with handle"); it is very similar to the German handle-grenade except that the latter has a long wooden handle, the Hungarian version a much shorter one. Its great advantage is that a number of these can be screwed together, even 20 in one string, easily and swiftly, and they can be timed for a four-second explosion. They are very effective in bridge demolition and the like. [redacted] the explosive power of each unit [redacted] 25X1 it is somewhat weaker than that of the German hand grenade 25X1

2. [redacted] explosives and accessories [redacted] available to civilian groups [redacted] 25X1 [redacted] were the following: 25X1

a. Black powder. [redacted] 25X1

b. Dynamite. [redacted] 400 to 425 pounds, 25X1 [redacted] used with cords, dug down into the road beds, as an anti-tank precaution. [redacted] the existence 25X1 at Visegradi, of one ton of dynamite [redacted]

[redacted] planned to use only in 25X1 the case of actual war; [redacted] held it in reserve for the demolition of two railroad tracks leading into Budapest, and also for the demolition of bridges over the Danube. 25X1

c. Detonating cord. [redacted] supply of one second per one centimeter, called "mine detonator", [redacted] used 25X1 with the dynamite. [redacted] it was confiscated from 25X1

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the army,

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- d. Safety and/or time fuses. [redacted] some fuse mechanisms from one of the quarries and from the Army Engineers' arsenal at Szentendre. [redacted] not use them. [redacted] use in the event of a winter war, or [redacted] on a campaign of sabotage. 25X1

Not available to [redacted] Freedom Fighters were: 25X1

- a. TNT. This explosive, used by the Hungarian Army, may have been used by the Szentendre National Committee. One of my Freedom Fighters knew of the existence of 200 pounds of TNT, hidden away since World War II. [redacted] 25X1

- b. Specific military explosives. Other bands of Freedom Fighters had Paxit, which they captured from quarries. Paxit is an explosive which is stronger than black powder, [redacted] 25X1

3. [redacted] manufacturing methods used in producing explosives in Hungary 25X1

[redacted] two factories, and these were being enlarged and modernized, rather than newly built; one was at Fet, in West Hungary and the other at Kazincz-Barcika, in north Hungary. (There was a third in the project stage--in 1956--intended for Tiszalok, northeast Hungary) 25X1

[redacted] These factories were manufacturing some sort of material based on nitrogen, ostensibly for agricultural purposes, but it was well known that the product was an explosive; [redacted] 25X1

[redacted] Until these installations started, the Soviets had not allowed Hungarians to produce explosives, but had exported all raw materials to the USSR. 25X1

4. [redacted] 25X1

[redacted] containers of mustard gas had been captured in the possession of Soviet soldiers in the Budapest barracks [redacted] the Soviets do not use modern equipment in these "isolated wars" (e.g. the Finnish and Korean campaigns as well as the Hungarian). And the Hungarian Army never had equipment of any later make than that used in World War II. 25X1

- a. Tear gas was used by the secret police, but not by the military or civilian fighters, during the street fighting in the first days of the revolution. 25X1

5. [redacted] that in the Bakony Hegyseg and Vertes Hegyseg (two mountain ranges in the Veszprem area) the Soviets had atomic weapons stored [redacted] 25X1

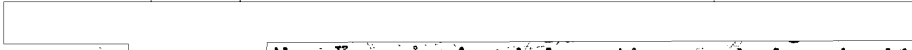
6. [redacted] 25X1

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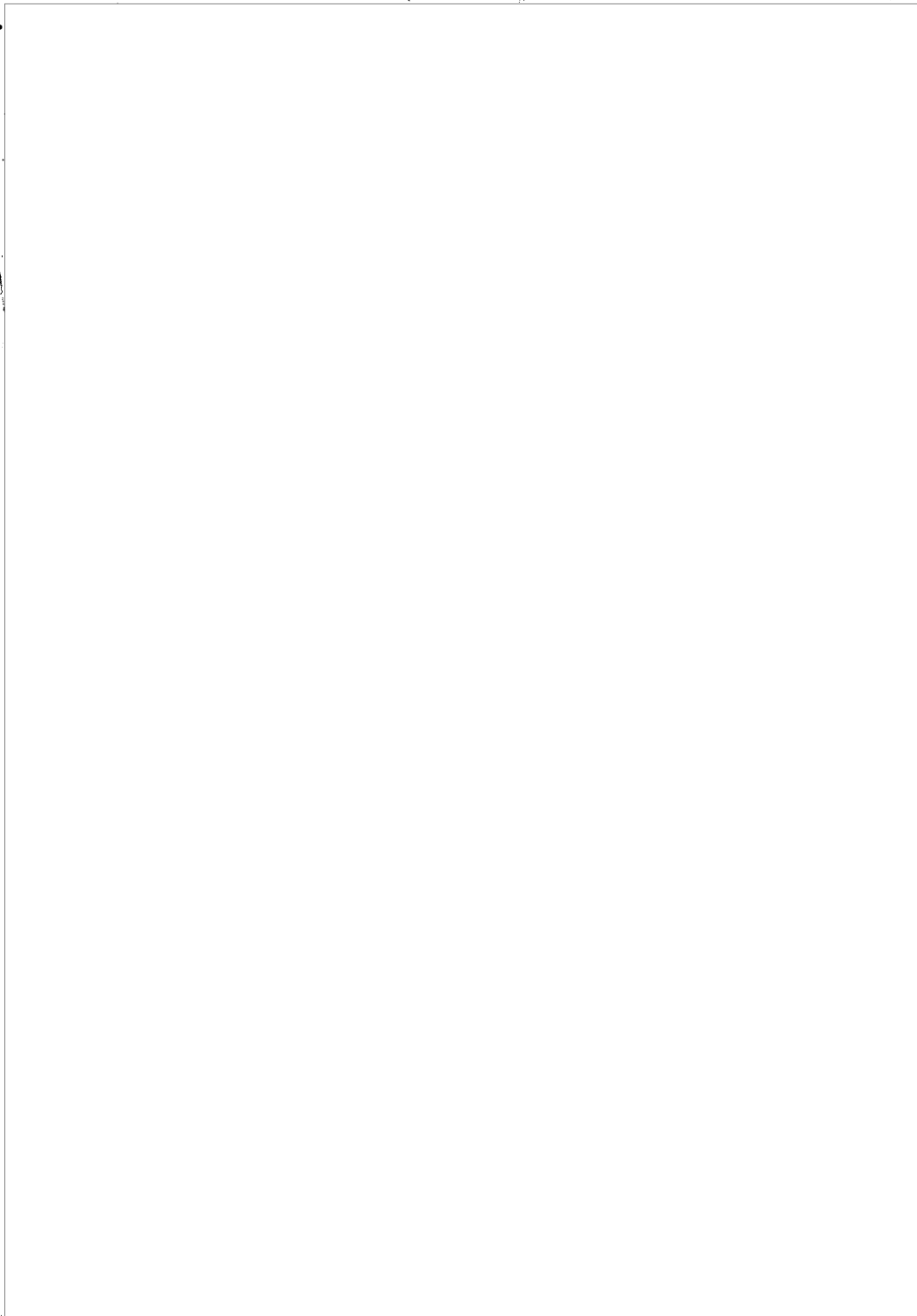
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the Hungarian Army had practice gas chambers in which they regularly tested gas masks as part of their equipment.

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