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RESTRICT NONPOLITICAL USE OF MEDICAL FACILITIES

A new system of admissions has recently been instituted for Budapest hospitals. Preadmittance clinics have been set up throughout the city. Before a patient is admitted for hospital care he must present all personal identification papers, a memorandum from a state doctor, a work certificate proving that he has worked regularly, certification from his housing representative stating the person's reliability, and certification from the local party secretary.

Hospital treatment is constantly deteriorating. Due to the unavailability of rubber gloves and other supplies, surgery at the Rokus Hospital, Budapest, has become a deadly business. Shipment of medicine to hospitals is constantly diminishing, and even domestically produced medicines are becoming scarce. The 16 X-ray machines sent to Korea have not been replaced, causing hardships at several hospitals and forcing several laboratories to cease operation.

Although most hospitals are so crowded that corridors are being utilized for bed space, hospitals such as the Civil Service Employees (OTBA) hospital at Budapest are set aside in each county for creating only State Security Police (AVH) personnel.

In a Budapest hospital, a party-certified patient receives 7.20 forints per diem subsistence, while AVH patients receive 14.20 forints. The best doctors and consultants are available free of charge to politically preferred patients. Important party members located in the provinces are sent to Budapest hospitals.

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