

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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1. Congress of Military Specialists in Budapest.

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- a. In August 1953, a conference of military designers and specialists took place in Budapest. It was attended by military specialists from the Satellites and the USSR. The meetings were held in the Hungarian Army's Institute for Military Technology in the Zalka Maté Barracks, the former Count Hadik Barracks.
- b. The participants were put up in the villas which are reserved for the most distinguished foreign visitors and which are situated on Matyas Kiraly Ut.
- c. The conferences lasted two weeks. The participants visited the testing range of the Hungarian Institute for Military Technology in Kecel and the Orkeny and Hajmasker artillery ranges.
- d. The Hungarian military specialists demonstrated the following weapons: a 160 mm. rocket launcher, a 110 mm. antitank gun, a new assault gun, and an improved and simplified model of the Kiraly submachine gun.
- e. The Rumanian military specialists reported on their experiments with remote-control missiles and the Czech armament technicians reported on their experiments with light armored cars.
- f. It is said that such conferences will be held annually.

2. New Hungarian Weapons.

The following has been learned of the weapons which were demonstrated at the conference.

- a. The 160 mm. rocket launcher, which had its trial firing at the Kecel

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experimental artillery range, is mounted on a caterpillar tractor. The traverse of the projector is 360°. The barrels of the rocket projectors are placed on top of each other in three rows of eight barrels each. One innovation in this rocket launcher is that it will also fire a single rocket from each barrel. It is also possible to fire only one row of eight barrels. The weight of one rocket is 40 kg. and the maximum range of the rocket launcher is 12,000 m. The caterpillar tractor for the rocket launcher is manufactured in the Red Star Tractor Factory in Budapest (formerly Hofher and Schrantz), while the rocket projector is mass-produced in the Mátyás Rákosi Works.

- b. The 110 mm. recoilless anti-tank weapon is a rocket-type gun. It fires so-called rocket grenades with low muzzle-velocity and is built according to the so-called hollow projectile system. The antitank gun is mass-produced at the Azsia (Asia) enterprise of the Diósgyőr Steel Works.
- c. The plans for the two models described above have been developed by Lieutenant Colonel Imre KUCHER, a Military Engineer. KUCHER's earlier inventions, the 7.62 mm. antitank rifle and the 4.05 cm. antitank gun, had been accepted by the Soviet Army at least by 1952.

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