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POLAND

INDUSTRY
Mining

The Uranium Pit JANOWA GORA In
STRONIE SLASKIE.

SOURCE SALZBURG: Engineer, 35, from NOWO WILEJCE, worked in JANOWA GORA from October 1951 until his escape on 2 March 1951.

DATE OF OBSERVATION: October 1951 to 3 March 1952

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Workers sent to the uranium pit JANOWA GORA, 29 kilometers south of KLODZKO, had to sign three affidavits when they started their services there. Two forms were alike and the third somewhat longer. On each of the three forms there appeared the personal data of the worker in question and a short curriculum vitae, including references. In the case of an engineer (NU), a Soviet engineer was listed as reference, although they did not even know each other. On the second page of these forms it was said that the whole project was "state secret" and that nobody was permitted to talk about this job, either with coworkers inside the mine or with people outside. Imprisonment in a penitentiary was mentioned on the form for any violations against this rule. The affidavits had to be signed in the personnel office of the Communist Party.

The UB made checks about the previous jobs the workers had held.

The engineer was assigned to the technical department as a draftsman. The chief of this department was a Soviet engineer named CZORCZYKOW Iwan. This Soviet came from the Caucasus and took charge of the office in October 1951. He was a very poor engineer and contacts with him showed that he did not understand anything about his job. His predecessor was a good man. The reason why he was discharged was that he was too friendly with the Poles. The Polish engineer was SKABINSKI Zenon. He was a member of the Communist Party, but not active and not convinced, a man of about 62 years of age, a well trained and experienced engineer. Some 12 draftsmen worked in this section, four in each group. This first group had to complete plans which had been started a year ago and worked in the office all the time. The engineer worked on these

plans in this group, the plans being photostats. Of the three copies, one went to WROCLAW to the Pryzidium Rady Wojewodzkiej and one to the Ministry in WARSZAWA. The engineer gave the copies to the Polish engineer, the Polish engineer gave them to the Soviet engineer and the latter then to the courier who was always accompanied by a UB and a NVD agent. The engineer himself was three times in WROCLAW in the Soviet department of the Presidium, located in Komsomorska Ulica No 8, where he discussed plans with Soviet engineers. The population does not know that there are Soviets inside that building.

The second group worked in the mine with the so-called "group 13" consisting of special workers (the Soviet engineer and 17 to 20 men.) They had an apparatus similar to the Geiger-apparatus and the draftsmen made sketches about the locations where uranium was found.

The third group was in the mine with the workers all the time and acted as a control on whether the plans were observed or whether changes were made.

There were about 400 Polish and 26 Soviet white-collar workers in the pit and approximately 2,000 laborers. Besides the laborers they had Polish soldiers, either a company or a battallion, for a period of six months. The soldiers worked only during nighttime.

It was impossible for the engineer to figure out the output of the mine. The only thing he could observe was that three times a week approximately 30 trucks, three tons each, driven by Soviet drivers and accompanied by 10 to 12 UB and NVD men, arrived at the pit and were loaded with the stones containing uranium by specially selected workers.

While draftsmen made 1,600 Zloty a month, the workers made 3000. The salary of the Soviet director was 7,000 a month and that of the Polish director 3,000 to 4,000 Zloty a month.

The secretary of the Communist Party in the mine was LACHOWICZ (fnu). There was a second and third secretary as well, but their names are unknown. The president of the Trade Union was OLECHNOWICZ. He did not take care of the interests of the workers. He was a good speaker and a convinced Communist. A part of the Soviets who worked in the mine lived within the compound. The other part and the Poles lived in STRONIE SLASKIE. The workers lived in both of these two places.

EVAL. COMMENT: The location of JANOWA GORA mines near STRONIE SLASKIE south of KLODZKO (Boievodship WROCLAW) is confirmed; but the presence of uranium pits there - UNCONFIRMED. All names UNCONFIRMED. Wages in line with other reports. Strict security measures and Soviet supervision of uranium mines in Poland confirmed by other sources.