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POLAND

INDUSTRY (1700)
Mining (1706)

Uranium Mines In Lower Silesia.

SOURCE STOCKHOLM: A 26-year-old sailor of the "Kutno." Before joining the navy about two years ago, he worked in the workshops of the KOWARY GORNE mines. His family living in Lower Silesia, he went there quite frequently and he is well acquainted with the conditions there. His last visit was in August 1952. He escaped to Sweden on 30 October 1952. His name should not be mentioned.

He seems very reliable and, not being particularly bright, did not try to pretend to know more than he actually does.

DATE OF OBSERVATION: Until August 1952

EVAL. COMMENT: The KOWARY mine was described in Item N^o. 10207/52; MIEDZIANKA mine was also previously mentioned.

The other uranium mines mentioned in this report have not been reported previously.

This office is at a loss to explain what a "brass-mine" (mentioned in the last paragraph is supposed to produce.)

While only Russians are administrating Poland's uranium mines, practically all miners are Poles. Before a Pole is permitted to work in a uranium mine he has to sign a declaration, swearing not to reveal anything about his work. The pay, taken care of by the Polish state although the Russians take the ore, is very high, probably higher than any other worker's salary in the country. Some workers can make up to 6.000 Zloty a month.

Uranium is mined in Lower Silesia in KOWARY GORNE, close to JELENIA GORA; in WLEN, close to PILCHOWICE, direction LWOWEK and in JAWOR, between 30 and 40 km from JELENIA GORA, direction LEGNICA. This last mine, JAWOR, was discovered close to an old quarry in 1949. In spring 1952 the mine had not yet begun to work properly.

The KOWARY GORNE mine is officially an iron ore mine. Since 1946, however, uranium is mined there. The Russian administrators of the mine live in a little village close to JELENIA GORA. The miners are fetched in lorries every

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morning from KOWARY GORNE, KOWARY DOLNE, MILKOW, SOSNOWKA, POPLAWY and JELENIA GORA. In summer 1952 they worked in three shifts, each shift consisting of about 1.000 workers.

The mine is surrounded by barbed wire and guarded by Polish KBW troops. Workers have said that the mine will be fully exploited rather soon. This rumor might be substantiated by the fact that several workers were discharged in the summer of 1952.

The uranium ore is water-rinsed in OGORZELEC, situated between KOWARY and JELENIA GORA. Since 1949 mining on a smaller scale of uranium is going on in OGORZELEC also.

Only Russians have the right to do geological research on uranium findings in Poland. All uranium in Poland is sent to the Soviet Union.

The KOWARY GORNE administration handles yet another mine. the brass-mine in MIEDZIANKA, about 3 km from JANOWICE, direction WALBRZYCH. This mine was drowned by the Germans during the war and was recovered in 1947.

End.