

ITEM NO 06769/53

MP  
VI/745  
30 June

BULGARIA

INDUSTRY /1700/  
Mining /1706/

URANIUM IN BULGARIA

SOURCE ROME : An Bulgarian emigrant

DATE OF OBSERVATION : Current period

EVAL. COMMENT : The reported information is in agreement with similar material available at this office. For more details see Item Nos: 3328/51 and 02910/53.

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There are uranium deposits in Bulgaria at a distance of 30 km from SOFIA near the village BUCHOVO. Before the war this area belonged to a certain BLUMENFELD and during World War II the Germans scrupulously examined the terrain and started exploiting the deposits. After entering Bulgaria the Russians continued this work.

At the beginning the deposits were exploited in a very primitive and savage way, i.e. also the stones were dug up and were shipped to Russia without even being cleaned. Later on special equipment was sent to the spot and today there is a large exploitation base in BUCHOVO which only Russians and no Bulgarians can approach; that is, only simple Bulgarian workers are allowed to work there. The earth is sifted with special machines. There are special laboratories examining the value of the extracted earth and in charge of searching for new uranium deposits. The whole area is under the control of the Soviet army. Specialists who worked there during the German occupation say that the earth of this deposit is very valuable and has a very high percentage of uranium, i.e. higher than that of any of the other uranium deposits Russia owns in Europe. The uranium yielded in BUCHOVO is shipped to Russia by sea or by rail.

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