

M
Oct 2
VI/669

BULGARIA

INDUSTRY (1700)
Mining (1706)

TRADE (3300)
Foreign illegal

NEW URANIUM DEPOSITS. IMPORT OF PROHIBITED GOODS.

SOURCE ROME : A 52-year-old Bulgarian emigrant.

DATE OF OBSERVATION: Current period.

EVALUATION COMMENT : The reported uranium deposits -- with the exception of those between SIMEONOVO and BISTRITSA -- are known to this office.

The import of prohibited strategic material from the West into Bulgaria and other Communist countries is confirmed by a declaration of a Bulgarian official source (see VIENNA RFE Item No.7562/54.)

* * *

"About a year ago," said the source, "work was going on in the newly-discovered uranium deposits of Bulgaria which are situated near BOTEVGRAD and north of BUHOVO." In the last two months other deposits have been found between the towns of STARA ZAGORA and TVARDITSA. In addition to these, deposits have been found between the villages of SIMEONOVO and BISTRITSA near SOFIA.

The source also said "apart from the commerce which Bulgaria has with Communist countries and the regular trade with Western countries, a good deal of prohibited strategic material enters the country clandestinely from Switzerland, England, Italy, the Middle East and America."

End.