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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

CD NO. 25X1A

COUNTRY Poland

DATE DISTR. 15 October 1952

SUBJECT Uranium Mining near Kowary

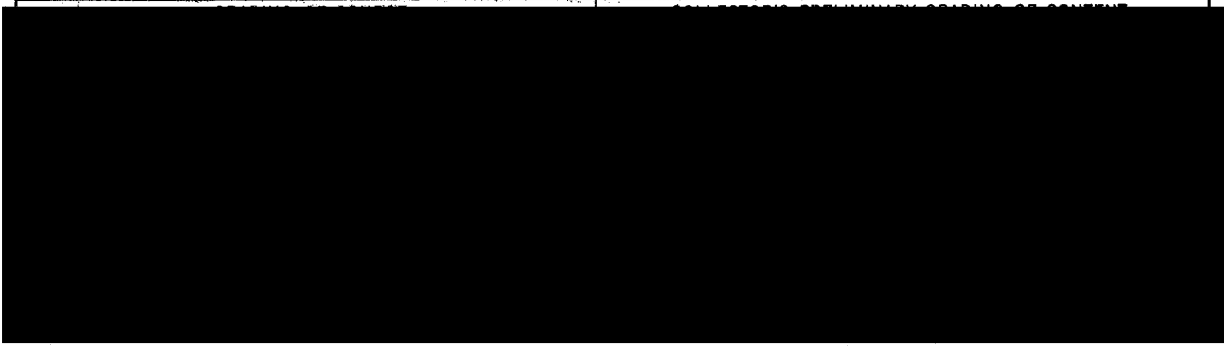
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DATE OF INFO. [REDACTED]

NO. OF ENCLS. (LISTED BELOW)

PLACE ACQUIRED [REDACTED]

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO. 25X1X

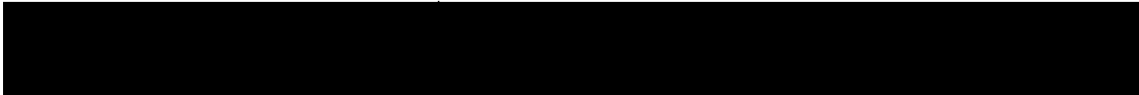


1. Before 1947, the Kowary mining area produced low grade iron ore. In April of that year, however, iron ore mining stopped and the extraction of uranium ore began. The area had been inhabited by a large number of German nationals; these people were resettled by the Polish authorities between April 1947 and October 1949.
2. Administrative headquarters for the uranium mines are in Kowary. About 40 percent of the administrative personnel are Russian; they are quartered in a residential district of the town called Wysoka Laka. The section has been built up by the Russians and now contains tennis courts, swimming pools and similar recreational facilities.
3. The 17 mines administered from Kowary are located as follows: five mines near Kowary, three near Ogorzelec (Staetisch Dittersbach), two in Wlisciszowice (Rohnau), two in Miedziana (Kupferberg), two in Ciechanowice (Rudelstadt), two in Swidnica (Schweidnitz), and one in Szkararsk Poreba Dolna (Nieder-Schreiberhau).
4. The production of uranium ore reached a peak in 1951; at that time 7,000 miners were employed in the area. Since then, output has decreased. In June 1952, it was planned that one third of the miners would be dismissed.
5. The uranium ore is transported by freight train to Ogorzelec. There it is washed by manually-operated water hoses. The processed ore is packed in metal containers, 70 centimeters high and 30 centimeters in circumference. The containers are manufactured in a plant in Kowary. After being filled, the containers are loaded onto trucks guarded by Russians and sent to an unknown destination.

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6. The mines are guarded by Polish soldiers who are billeted in old farm buildings near Kowary which have been converted into barracks. There are about 2,000 such guards. They are distinguishable from other Polish military units by their red striped caps.

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1. Comment: See [redacted] for details concerning the mines near Ciechanowice where five mines are allegedly in operation.

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