

CLASSIFICATION RESTRICTED  
 SECURITY INFORMATION  
 CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
 INFORMATION FROM  
 FOREIGN DOCUMENTS OR RADIO BROADCASTS

REPORT  
 CD NO.

STAT

COUNTRY Bulgaria  
 SUBJECT Economic - Electrolytic copper  
 HOW PUBLISHED Daily newspaper  
 WHERE PUBLISHED Sofia  
 DATE PUBLISHED 20 Nov 1951  
 LANGUAGE Bulgarian  
 DATE OF INFORMATION 1951  
 DATE DIST. 26 Aug 1952  
 NO. OF PAGES 2  
 SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS INFORMATION AFFECTING THE NATIONAL DEFENSE OF THE UNITED STATES WITHIN THE MEANING OF ESPIONAGE ACT 50 U.S.C. 91-12, AS AMENDED. ITS TRANSMISSION OR THE REVELATION OF ITS CONTENTS TO ANY PERSON OR PERSONS IS PROHIBITED BY LAW. REPLY IN THIS FORM IS PROHIBITED.

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

SOURCE Vecherni Novini.

PRODUCTION OF ELECTROLYTIC COPPER IN BULGARIA

On 14 November 1951, the "Elprom" Public Electrical Enterprise turned over the "Machinostroene" (Machine-Building) State Industrial Combine the newly opened plant for the production of electrolytic copper at the "Dimitur Blagoev" State Industrial Enterprise.

Bulgaria has important deposits of copper ores, from which copper has been obtained for decades. Only black copper, also called copper matte, was produced in Bulgaria. To use this copper for industrial purposes, it was necessary to send it out of the country for processing and chemical purification. Although the installations and equipment involved in the purification of copper are cheap and simple, and although the technological principles underlying the process are well known, such production had not been undertaken until now, and all attempts in that direction had been rejected.

The production of electrolytic copper was begun during 1951. The technicians and engineers of "Elprom," under the leadership of the technical director, Engineer Manol Gyuzhenov, early this year concluded a contract with the "Machinostroene" State Industrial Combine for the reconditioning and activation of the existing installations of the "Dimitur Blagoev" plant, which was built in former years for the electrolytic separation of tin from copper utensils, which were then reworked into copper wire. Past experiments in which the purification of copper by electrolysis was attempted had proved unsatisfactory. Much of the equipment had been converted to other tasks, while the plant itself was being used as a warehouse.

This year, after several months of effort, the technicians and engineers of "Elprom," with the cooperation of the management of the "Dimitur Blagoev" State Industrial Enterprise, achieved great success. On the eve of the celebration of the October Revolution, the plant for the electrolytic purification of copper was ready, and on 20 October normal operations began.

Present production, as yet in the experimental stage, is furnishing the basis for mastery of the industrial process and for expansion of the plant, the intention being to fill all the needs of "Elprom" in 1952.

- 1 -

CLASSIFICATION RESTRICTED

STATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAVY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NSRB	DISTRIBUTION						
ARMY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AIR	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FBI	<b>SEC X</b>						

RESTRICTED

STAT

The production of chemically pure conducting copper from copper matte has a great economic effect for more reasons than that its purification henceforth will be done within the country. It is known that the nation's copper ores contain a certain amount of gold and silver. With the technique which has now been adopted these valuable materials will be recovered in the purification process and will constitute an important source of hard currency. With the expansion of production in 1952, 20 million leva will be saved which formerly went to pay for the transport of the copper to foreign plants and back. If to this saving there are added the value of the recovered gold and silver, the price of purification abroad, and other expenses, the total annual savings will amount to some 100 million leva. Finally, by the introduction of this process, our electrical industry will always have sufficient quantities of the vital conducting copper at its disposal and will thus cease to be dependent on imports from abroad.

The preparation of a new reagent is being pushed, which will boost average daily production to five times its present amount.

- E N D -

- 2 -

RESTRICTED