

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Poland

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SUBJECT Zygmunt, Dymitrow, and Ruda Slaska Coal Mines near Katowice (Stalinograd)

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1. The Zygmunt Coal Mine

The Zygmunt coal mine is located in Chorzow (N 50-18, E 18-58), Poland, and belongs to the Bytom Union of Mines. The shaft of the mine is approximately 360 meters deep. The main tunnel, which has many side tunnels, extends 3,000 meters from the shaft. A total of 3,000 persons are employed by the mine. Of this number, 600 are prisoners from a nearby labor camp. The Zygmunt mine has a daily output of approximately 3,200 tons of good pit coal.

2. The Dymitrow Coal Mine

The Dymitrow coal mine is located in Bytom (Beuthen) (N 50-21, E 18-58), Poland, and belongs to the Bytom Union of Mines. Two shafts, 580 and 800 meters deep, are active at this mine. The deeper shaft is called a "gas shaft", and smoking of any sort is forbidden anywhere nearby. The coal mined here is of a low grade. One thousand prisoners plus civilians numbering many more than the prisoners are employed at this mine. The Dymitrow coal mine is the only mine in the area which operates a skip with a capacity of 9 tons.

3. The Coal Mine in Ruda Slaska

The coal mine in Ruda Slaska belongs to the Rudzkie Union of Mines and has two shafts in operation. The Walenty Wawel shaft is 280 meters deep and has a 4 1/2-meter high tunnel extending 2,000 meters from it. The other shaft is called the Marjan. The total daily output of these two active mine shafts is approximately 12,000 tons of very high grade pit coal. About 6,000 persons are employed here. Of this number, 600 are prisoners from the hard labor camp C.O.P.W. #1 located in the outskirts of Ruda Slaska.

4. Each of these three mines operates on a 24-hour day basis, employing three shifts of 8 hours each. All the machinery used is old and mainly of German make. For transportation in and around the mines, dogs, electric engines with attached wagons, transport belts (60-100 cm in width) and shoring-channels are used. No combines were observed.

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