

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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INFORMATION REPORT

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[Redacted]

COUNTRY	USSR (Magadan Oblast)	REPORT	[Redacted]
SUBJECT	Cassiterite Mine and Concentration Plant near Butugychak	DATE DISTR.	17 March 1955 25X1
DATE OF INFO.	[Redacted]	NO. OF PAGES	2
PLACE ACQUIRED	[Redacted]	REQUIREMENT	[Redacted]
		REFERENCES	[Redacted]

This is UNEVALUATED Information

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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1. The cassiterite mine near Butugychak (N 61-19, E 149-11) was very primitive, and a very small concentration factory was connected with it. [Redacted] the tunnels were horizontal, going into the hill. The only equipment used was pressure drills, used to break off the rock. The ore was loaded by shovel into mine cars, and these were pushed toward the exit.
2. Some 40 prisoners worked on a dump for low-grade ore. The workers had to pick out the better looking pieces and break them up with hammers. They also had a small ore washing pan (latka) which had a ribbed section on one side. The norm for the workers at the dump was 2.5 kg of concentrate per ten-hour shift. They could seldom fill this norm without stealing some higher-grade ore intended for the factory.
3. At the foot of a hill, about 500 m away from Camp Gornyak (sic), there was a small concentration plant equipped with two small ball mills (sharovaya melnitsa). Each mill yielded 80 kg of cassiterite concentrate per ten-hour shift; they were operated day and night. The lettering on the machines was not in Cyrillic. They consisted of a rotating cylinder which turned at the rate of 16 rpm; a 50-kw motor turned the mills. Water and steel balls were added to the ore. When the ore came out of the mill, it passed over a shaking table from which water and sand ran off while the concentrate gathered at one corner.
4. The concentrate was gathered in canvas bags, each weighing 50 kg. and loaded onto trucks. There was no marking on the bags. [Redacted] once or twice a week the bags were loaded

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(Note: Washington Distribution Indicated By "X"; Field Distribution By "#")

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onto three-ton ZIS trucks and taken to Magadan.

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5. Until 1951, women had been working in this cassiterite mine and factory. They were transferred to Vakhanka and Karmen, about five km from Matrosova¹, where there was a larger factory and where the better-grade ore was sent (sic).

6. The head of Mine No. 3 at Butugychak was Engineer Grzyov (fmu)

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The head of Mine No. 2 was Ivanov (fmu)

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