

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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1. Location.

The Eduard mine was located at the north end of Jachymov, about 300 m. west of the road leading north from Jachymov to Bozi Dar. The area covered by the mine was about 1,200 m. long (north-south) and 600 m. wide. It was fenced with a double barbed-wire fence about 3 m. high.

2. General layout of the mine and description of procedure.

The mine had six levels, and a seventh was being sunk. The equipment was modern, and mining of dead rock was carried out by means of a scoop attachment. Two automatic scoops were fitted to a two-storied cage and filled with dead material automatically on the sixth level. The individual levels had shafts down which dead material was poured. The dead material fell to the sixth level, where the shaft ended in an automatic fitting that switched on when the cage stopped, filling both scoops on the cage automatically. Continuous mining through the whole of the six hours' working time on each shift was thus made possible. The levels had enough empty trucks, since these were not taken to the surface, and a 15-car train was emptied at the shaft in 10 minutes. At the surface, the scoops, the capacity of which was 0.75 cubic meters, were emptied automatically where the cage stopped at the loading station. The surface cars were filled there to carry material to the slag heap. The capacity of the cars was 1.2 cubic meters. At the mine cage, the cars were checked, and any containing radioactive material were sent to the sorting rooms. This check was carried out here in addition to an official checking of the cars as they were emptied, with apparatus for measuring the material before it was emptied into the shaft. (This apparatus was not very sensitive.) The official at the shaft sent the car by the normal method to the mine cage when its radioactivity had been ascertained. Since the men who operated the cars were paid according to the number of cars they removed, they tried to make the circulation of full and empty cars as smooth as possible.

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(Note: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution by "#".)

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3. Tunnels.

The tunnels had a regulation measurement of 270 x 250 cm., and most of them were laid with double tracks for trolley transport. On each level there was a center around the cage where the tunnels running in all directions were connected. Most of the tunnels followed veins and were named after the veins they followed; e.g., Mala Krasna east (vychod) - MKv, and the face was numbered according to the level: MKv, level No. IV - sections 00 - 014. These sections were workings where veins had been opened. The workings were each 50 m. apart and were numbered from 00 to 014. The system of numbering the veins was perfectly worked out and on the technical side it was clear. A vein called AC (Aktivni cervena - radioactive red) continued the MK vein, and the first section in vein AC, that is, section 00, was connected with the last one in MK - 014. All the tunnels and faces on one level were connected in a similar manner.

4. Workings.

The sections or faces were kept in order in the mine, and the mine was managed on the principle that both the free employee and the prisoner must leave his section in the same orderly state in which he took it over; i.e., it must have the prescribed measurements, the ground tidied, and blasted material cleared away. If any face was not in order, the worker, be he free or prisoner, was not paid for the work he had done; this meant that the number of meters covered was not measured and the employee was only paid for the ore he had mined. The meters covered were only paid one month later if the working was found to be in absolute order for the next worker taking over. By this means, cases such as those occurring in Eva mine where the prisoners had to clean up the working after the civilian workers, were avoided.¹ There were, of course, some disadvantages for the prisoners in Eduard pit, since the civilian employees had taken over the best workings for ore to fulfill the plan and get the extra percentage in excess of the plan which they lost by having to do the cleaning up.

5. Two-thirds of the workings were in soft rock (degree of hardness 8) (Svycar, MK, F, and AC veins), rich in ore and pitchblende. The richest vein of pitchblende, about 20 cm. in diameter, was Svycar (kidney type), and in September 1953, Svycar yielded an average of 100 kg. of pitchblende per shift. Veins rich in red pitchblende were found in working MKv - IV - 010. In workings MKv - IV - 08, 09, 013, and 014 the yield of ore was in veins up to 30 cm. thick, strongly radioactive, containing small veins of powdery pitchblende, black, looking like powdery black soot, making this vein of ore high in radioactivity. The vein called Aktivni cervena was a vein of ore of medium radioactivity, reddish in color, and reaching a thickness of 10 cm. The richest workings were ACv - IV - 00 and 01. Fiedler tunnel was completed and the workings were just being opened.² There were three tunnels, north, middle and south, with cross-cuttings, ends of corridors, and parti-walls (sic) at a distance of 50 m., and these workings already showed a rich yield of pitchblende, so that it was estimated that Fiedler would be the best vein, after Svycar, and the administration was trying to speed up opening work on it. The principal veins ran through all the levels.

6. Connections with other mines.

On the third level, the Eduard mine was connected by a shaft with the second level of the Rovnost mine, and the whole of the fifth level of Eduard mine belonged to Rovnost and was part of Rovnost's fourth level, coming under its administration, the ore taken out being transported thither also, only the dead material being taken out through the Eduard mine. No mine cages stopped at the fifth level in Eduard mine, and the employees entered it through the Rovnost mine. The fourth level of Eduard mine was connected by a tunnel called the Elias tunnel with the Elias mine. Access to the Elias mine was forbidden to prisoners, but sometimes prisoners went there on trucks in spite of the prohibition, only however those who knew the pit from former times.

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7. Output.

On an average, 1,200 trucks, capacity 1.2 cubic meters, of material was mined per shift. The planned quota for ore was three trucks per level per shift, and this quota was approximately maintained but not exceeded. The average yield of pitchblende per level per shift was 100 - 150 kg., but this was not specified by plan. In actual fact, up to 300 kg. of pitchblende was mined, but 50% was debased to "make ore" in order that the planned quota might be maintained.

8. Processing and removal of ore.

The ore taken out was roughly sorted in the sorting shop, put into wooden crates, and taken by truck to the Expert Technical Control at Vykmánov. The trucks went twice a day. The number of them is not known; the type was the 10-ton Tatra lll. A road about six meters wide, well-kept with a rolled surface, led through the gates to the Jachymov - Bosi Dar road. It also connected all the buildings in the mine area.

9. Employees.

- a. Number of employees. About 350 prisoners and 200 free employees worked on each shift.
- b. Pay and norms. These were the same as in all the other Jachymov mines.¹
- c. Feeding arrangements. The civilian employees had their meals in the canteen, which was outside the mine area, about 200 m. east of the main gates.

10. Mechanical equipment.

The mechanical equipment was exactly the same as that of the other mines.¹ In workings where ore was not being mined, Soviet mining methods were used to a greater extent.

11. Security measures.

These were the same as for the Eva mine.¹

12. Management personnel.a. Manager and Chief Engineer:

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Malinin (fnu)

b. Shift Organizer:

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Jindra (fnu)

c. Overseer on the Second Level:

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Lang (fnu)

d. Overseer on the Third Level:

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Tuma (fnu)

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[Redacted]

e. Overseer on the Fourth Level:

Zeman (fnu)

[Redacted]

f. Overseer on the Sixth Level:

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Sterba (fnu)

[Redacted]

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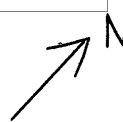
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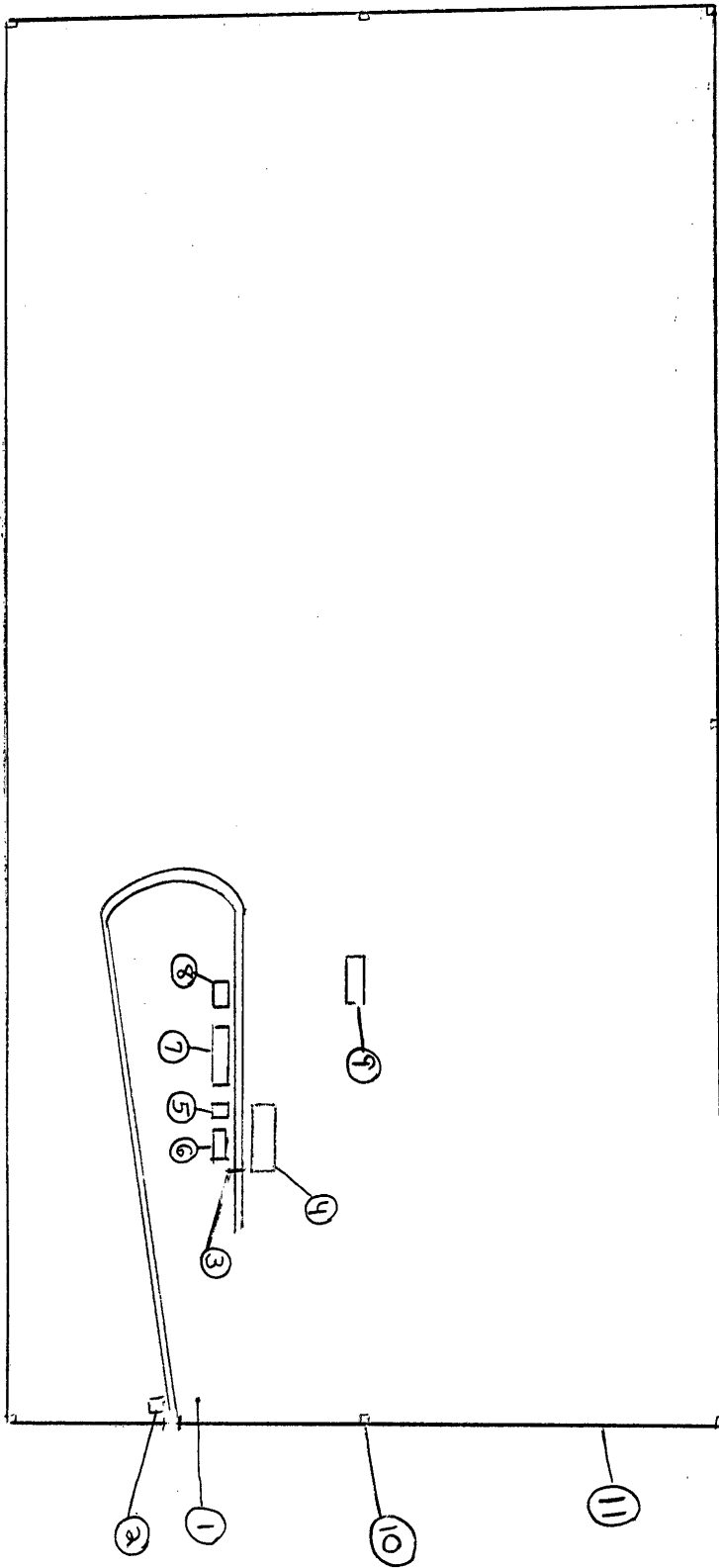


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Annex

Eduard Mine at Jachymov
Approximate Scale 1:5000



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Legend to AnnexLayout of the Mine

1. Gatekeeper's post, at the main entrance to the mine, both for free employees and prisoners. Wooden, single-story, 5 x 3 m. There were always two members of the StB at the post and one civilian checking passes.
2. Guard Room for the StB, wooden, single-story building, 15 x 10 m., where members of the StB doing duty on the towers and in the gatekeeper's post were quartered.
3. Pass-Collecting Room. Single-story brick building, 3 x 3 m., where there was one civilian female employee collecting passes. This was the main entrance to the central building, with which it was connected by a bridge at a height of about six meters.
4. Central building, two-storied, brick building, 60 x 20 m., plastered and covered with eternit. On the ground floor at the west corner, there was the pit head with the cage and tower, rising above the building. An assembly hall for the miners was in the eastern part and was connected with the mine by a corridor, on the north side of which was the lamp shop, with services for maintaining and filling the lamps. The hall had modern fittings; it was lined with green tiles and equipped with central heating and benches for the miners. All meetings took place in this hall. On the north side of the hall were the offices of the overseers and foremen for each level. On the east side was the staircase to the second floor, and below this, stairs to the basement. Beside the stairs was the entrance to the free employees' cloakroom and bathrooms (showers only). The basement contained a boiler for central heating, a store for coal, and safe cells where the Geiger counters were kept. On the second floor were the mine management and Soviet offices.
5. Pit winder, in a single-story brick building about 15 x 15 x 8 m. in size.
6. Compressor room, in a brick building about 30 x 15 x 6 m. in size.
7. Central Workshops, in a single-story brick building, 50 x 15 m. From east to west, the workshops were as follows: Electrical workshop with store, repair shop for mine implements, with issuing and receiving room, mechanical workshop, OTK (Expert Technical Control) (sorting shop), forge, receiving and issuing of drill shafts.
8. Joiner's Workshop in a single-story, wooden building, about 25 x 10 m.
9. RAS; a group of about four wooden buildings, about 20 x 5 m. in size, single-story, containing the sorting shop, in which the last traces of radioactive material, ore, and pitchblende were removed from dead material which in normal circumstances would be thrown out onto the slag heap. About 50 kg. of pitchblende and ore were collected on an average daily in this sorting room.
10. Guard Towers, standing at the corners of the area and along the fence. These were wooden, about six meters high, and on each was one member of the StB, who was relieved every two hours. By day, they were armed with automatic carbines and at night with light MGs.
11. Fence surrounding the whole area of the mine, double, 3 m. high; the space between the fences was 3 m. wide and sprinkled with white sand. Along the fence on both sides there was a 3 m. wide zone under fire, clearly marked.

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