

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

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SUBJECT Ch'olsan Monazite Mines

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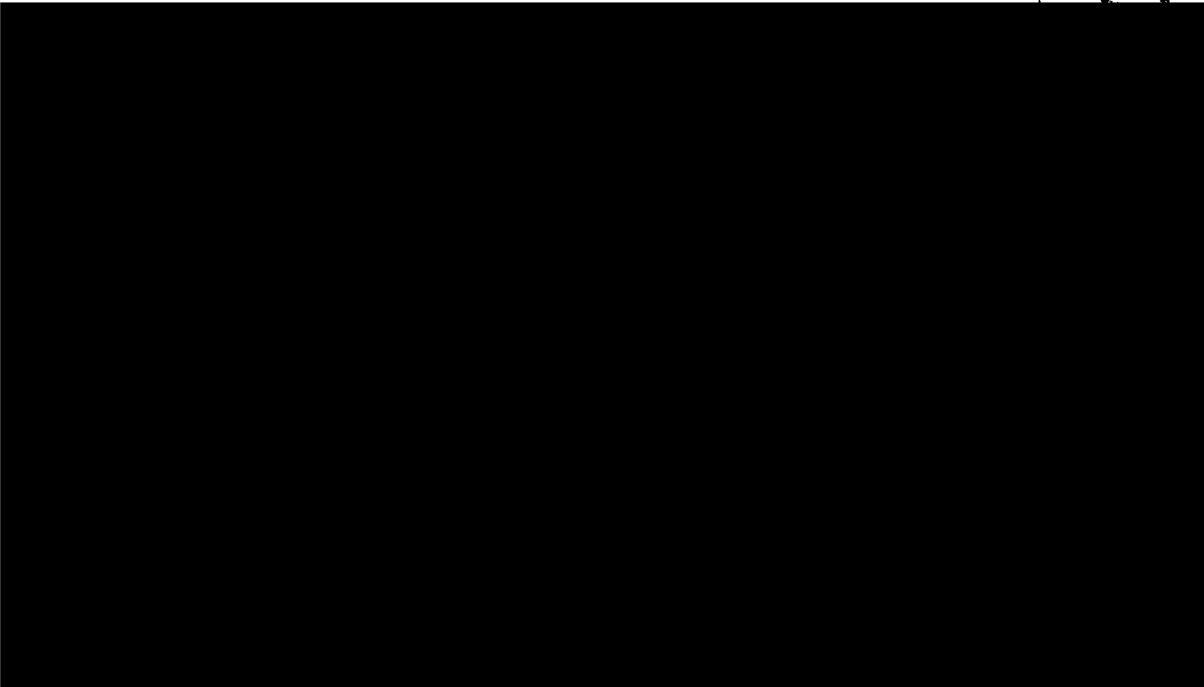
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- Operations of the Ch'olsan monazite mines are conducted at the following points on the Ch'olsan peninsula: Tongch'ang-dong (124-42, 39-41) (XD 4694) (see Attachment No. A), Paengyang (124-46, 39-43) (XD 5197), Tongsu-dong (124-42, 39-46) (XE 4603), Kibong-dong (124-38, 39-37) (XD 4066), Chang'yong-dong (124-44, 39-43) (XD 4994), Kunch'on-dong (124-42, 39-42) (XD 4696), Tongch'bn-dong (124-43, 39-44) (XE 4705), Sin'gok (124-42, 39-49) (XE 4508), and Sinch'on-nyon (124-46, 39-49) (XE 5106). Approximately 730 square kilometers of monazite-bearing sands are being exploited on the peninsula.
- The mines operate directly under the North Korean Ministry of Industry and Commerce, and are supervised jointly by a Soviet engineer-advisor, a special representative of the North Korean Ministry of Industry and Commerce, and a special representative of the North Korean cabinet. The Tongch'ang-dong area mines are inspected by Soviet experts at frequent intervals, when technical instruction is given the manager. In mid-May 1951, a Soviet about 30 years of age dressed in civilian clothing visited the Tongch'ang-dong mines and conferred with the manager after inspecting the mine installations. The Ch'olsan mining operations are regarded as extremely important by the North Korean government, and KIM Il-song in the company of Soviet advisers visited the mines on several occasions before June 1950. The mines were re-opened for operation 10 May 1951 (the Paengyang and Tongsu-dong mines were re-opened 10 March 1951).

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-2-

3. The central staff at the Ch'olsan mines includes the following:

KIM Song-su (金成洙), chief manager

KIM Yong-t'aek (金永澤), vice-manager

T'AEK Myong-su (白明洙), chief of the Ministry of Social Security Detachment¹

YI Ch'ang-t'ok (李昌德), mobilization chief

CHONG Myong-chun (鄭明俊), head of the Ch'olsan mine Labor Party organization

KIM Tu-hwan (金斗煥), special representative of the North Korean cabinet

The staff is divided into fifteen sections: planning, surveying, exploitation, processing, production, inspection, labor, supply, accounting, civil engineering, transportation and mining, construction, purchasing, staff, and party affairs.

4. Laborers are mobilized through the local people's committee home affairs branches. Those subject to mobilization included men and women from 15 to 35 years of age, only women with small babies being exempt from mobilization. In early May when the mines were re-opened, there were 16,000 laborers employed in the work. In late May there were employed approximately 1900 persons at the three Tongch'ang-dong mines under manager KIM Tok-hi (金得洙), aged 32, including 20 engineers, 50 office workers, and 30 drivers and guards. Manager of Tongch'ang-dong Mine No. 1, which employed 380 workers in late May, was KIM Song-t'ok (金聖德), aged 31. Manager of Mine No. 2, which employed 600 workers, was KIM I-chun (金烈俊), aged 35. Manager of Mine No. 3, which employed 820 workers, was TAEK Ch'an-chun (白贊俊), aged 47. In early July the laboring force was increased to 32,000 through mobilization of political prisoners and reactionary elements in the population, of which group the forced laborers included 12,000 males aged 16 to 60, 4,000 females aged 15 to 55, and 4,000 unspecified laborers. Approximately 10,000 of the total mobilized were free laborers, and there were about 600 engineer and clerical personnel. (In mid-June, 30,000 laborers, most of them political prisoners, were employed in the Ch'olsan monazite mines at Paengnyang and Tongsu-dong, under KIM Tok-ha (金得河), aged 35, a native of Ch'olsan and an official of the Korean Labor Party. It was rumored among the laborers in mid-June that at a labor union conference it had been decided to double the labor force because of increased Soviet demands for the monazite ore.)
5. Twenty laborers work in a group, supervised by a foreman who is a member either of the Labor Party or the Communist Young Men's Association. Engineers at the mine receive 1200 to 2700 North Korean won per month; office workers receive 1000 to 1200 won or slightly above the average wage for school teachers in North Korea. Free laborers are paid per kilogram of processed ore produced according to the quality of the mine in which they work. Workers in a mine where the ore is abundant are paid 7.5 North Korean won per kilogram produced, 17.20 won in an average mine, and in a poor mine, 30.30 won. Conscripted laborers are paid no cash, but all laborers receive 90 grams of grain daily. (The workers at the Tongch'ang mines receive forty North Korean won for each kilogram of monazite ore produced.)
6. In mid-July equipment at the mines included 250 motor pumps, an average of about 30 per mine, sand-moving apparatus, agitating table separators, and cylindrical, bearing-activated crushers used as dressing machines for concentration and separation of the ore. Four sets each of the separating and dressing

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-3-

equipment were at Ch'aryon'guan (124-43, 39-49) (XE 4172) and the Sin'gok, Changp'yong, and Tongch'on mines, and three each at the Kunch'on-dong mines. Both the Changp'yong and Tongch'on mines had electric drying apparatus, a precise analysis machine, type unknown, was at Ch'aryon'guan, the rail terminal from which the monazite sands are shipped; and four ordinary analysis machines were at other points. A machinery repair shop in Simch'on-gyon was equipped with three lathes and one machine used in the repair of mining apparatus. Equipment at the Tongch'ang-dong mines in late May included one assaying machine, 10 ton-horsepower motors at Mine No. 1, fifteen of the same type at Mine No. 2, and 7 ten-horsepower and 8 fifteen-horsepower motors at Mine No. 3.

7. After the monazite sand has been extracted from the mines by the pit-mining process, it is washed and shipped to the Soviet Union without further processing. The monazite content of washed heavy sand from the Ch'olsan mines is 25 percent by volume. The monazite sand produced at the Tongch'ang-dong mines is approximately 40 percent monazite and thorium. The minimum production quota of unwashed sands for each miner per day at the Ch'olsan mines is as follows: best quality mine, 7.5 kilograms; average mine, six kilograms; poor mine, three kilograms. (In late June at a labor conference it was decided to raise the daily minimum production quota of raw sands from four to six kilograms per man to meet increased Soviet demands.) Daily production of washed sands at the Tongch'ang-dong mines was six tons in late May, while the total production of all the Ch'olsan mines² was 75 tons daily in mid-July. (Production of the Ch'olsan mines in mid-June was 110 tons of washed sand daily.)
8. The washed sand is packed at the mines into fifty-kilogram boxes measuring approximately 50 x 20 x 20 centimeters, which bear identifying markings in the Russian language. The boxes are collected by thirty trucks of a unit of the North Korean Ministry of Transportation with headquarters at Choyang-dong (124-41, 39-49) (XE 4408), and day and night are hauled directly from the mines to Ch'aryong'guan station for shipment by rail to Soviet Russia via Manchuria. Five hundred tons of sand are shipped weekly by freight car from Ch'aryon'guan (box-cars are employed). The production quota for 1951 is 96 freight-car loads per quarter. On the return trip from the station the trucks haul engine oil, and food to the mines.
9. The main office of the Ch'olsan mining administration was in a three-story concrete building facing the Ch'aryon'guan railroad station, but because of United Nations air attacks it was moved in mid-July to a one-story Korean house in Sin'gok (124-42, 39-49) (XE 4508), from where mining operations are controlled. Because of transportation difficulties, 300 tons of washed sand are buried in a mulberry forest one kilometer north of the Ch'aryon'guan railroad station, and 5000 tons are buried in an orchard one kilometer from the same station, exact location unknown.

25X1A1 [REDACTED] Comment. Formerly the North Korean State Security Bureau.

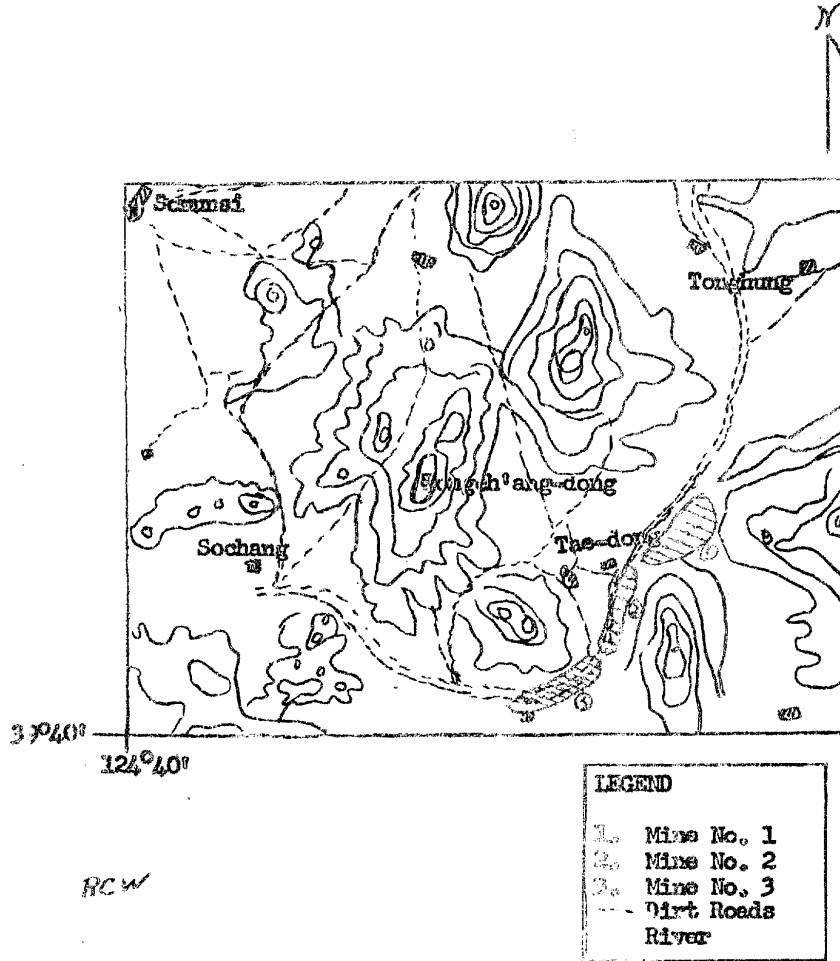
25X1A2 [REDACTED] Comment. Presumably including the Tongch'ang-dong mines, which from all indications are part of the Ch'olsan mines and under the same administration.

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ATTACHMENT A

Ca'olsan Monazite Mine
(Tongch'ang-dong Operations)



ATTACHMENT A

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