

OCD

INTELLOPK 14

FORM NO. 51-44A
FEB 1952

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

CLASSIFICATION SECRET/CONTROL - U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY
SECURITY INFORMATION

25X1

INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT NO. []

CD NO.

COUNTRY Rumania

DATE DISTR. 7 April 1952

SUBJECT Rumanian Industrial Activities

NO. OF PAGES 4

REFERENCE COPY
DO NOT CIRCULATE

NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

25X1

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS INFORMATION AFFECTING THE NATIONAL DEFENSE OF THE UNITED STATES, WITHIN THE MEANING OF TITLE 18, SECTIONS 793 AND 794, OF THE U.S. CODE, AS AMENDED. ITS TRANSMISSION OR REVELATION OF ITS CONTENTS TO OR RECEIPT BY AN UNAUTHORIZED PERSON IS PROHIBITED BY LAW. THE REPRODUCTION OF THIS FORM IS PROHIBITED.

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

1. Rumania's own iron ore has never been sufficient for the needs of the Rumanian iron industry. Ore was formerly imported from Yugoslavia, and more recently from the USSR. Since the Soviets were reluctant to export iron ore (they did not have enough for their own industry), Rumania in 1950-1951 began to follow the example of Hungary and to import iron ore from Iran. Iranian ores were of poor quality and have never been quoted on the world market. Ore was loaded at Port Said, from which the Hungarian vessels TISZA, BUDAPEST and SZEGED sailed for Constanta.
2. Since coal from Anina suitable for making into coke was not sufficient for the needs of the Rumanian iron industry, coal had to be imported from Poland. In order to make the industry independent of these imports, attempts were made to make coke of the coal mined at Lupeni, a large coal mining area in Rumania. The experiments were successful but the necessary installation for the process was imported only in 1951.
3. Chromium and tungsten were imported from China. Cobalt could be obtained only with great difficulties.

5. In 1951 a "not very great" quantity of copper was imported via Beirut.
6. There were few compressors, as their export to the Eastern bloc was banned. The compressors used in the coal mines no longer functioned properly and miners who had refused to go to work because of these compressors received sentences of up to 25 years imprisonment. They were offered releases if they agreed to return to the mines.

CLASSIFICATION SECRET/CONTROL - U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY

**RETURN TO RECORDS CENTER
IMMEDIATELY AFTER USE
JOB 56-377 BOX 8**

STATE	X	NAVY	X	NSRB		DISTRIBUTION								
ARMY	X	AIR	X	FBI										

7. From 1947 onwards, machinery was imported for the establishment of the following factories:
- a. A factory for machine tools in the former premises of the Astra Vagoane Factory at Arad, the only one in Eastern Europe.
 - b. A factory for electrical motors from 100 to 150 h.p., an attempt to produce more powerful motors not being successful, in the former workshops of the CFR (Rumanian Railways) at Craiova. The manager of the factory was Zeigher, the former head of the Planning Commission.

25X1

-
10. An exceptionally hard steel called Vidia was used for the tips and cutting edges of tools. The material used for Vidia was very hard and was used in its pure state by the oil industry. The material was difficult to import and it is believed that it was brought in through diplomatic pouch. The same was done to facilitate the manufacture of other extra-rapid (sic) high speed steels.
 11. A group of Rumanian and Hungarian engineers succeeded in manufacturing graphite electrodes for electric furnaces from the remnants of used electrodes in accordance with a method described in a U.S. scientific periodical. The electrodes were difficult to import as they were the monopoly of a United States-Great Britain-Swedish firm.
 12. The Industria Sarmei Factory at Turda produced welding electrodes. The steel wires were manufactured by the factory itself, but the chemicals with which the wires were coated had to be imported. A certain quantity was successfully imported in 1950-51.
 13. Rumania's only source for underground electric cables was the USSR, but the cables obtained were made of steel wire and not of copper. This caused many failures.
 14. As the old Rumanian oil refineries could not be renovated both gasoline and paraffin were of poor quality. The gasoline was of not more than 70 octane.
 15. There was much exploratory drilling in oil areas. The following new deposits were discovered:
 - a. Very large deposits thought to rival those of Floesti were found in the Buzau district near the old oil fields.
 - b. North of Bacau (between Bacau and Piatra Neamt). The old oil fields were situated south of Bacau.
 - c. Methane gas in northern Moldavia. A gas pipeline was laid to Iasi from the gas wells.
 - d. Very large deposits of methane gas in northern Transylvania. These deposits could supply the whole of Rumanian industry for 3,000 years.
 - e. Oil in northern Oltenia.

- 3 -

These oil fields could not be exploited for lack of oil pipes and production on a limited scale had been begun only at Bacau.

25X1

[REDACTED]

25X1

17. The pipeline from Ploesti to Giurgiu was taken up and relaid from Ploesti to Reni.

18. There were some places in the Moreni district where natural gasoline of very good quality was obtained in small quantities.

25X1

[REDACTED]

22. A factory for tanning agents was set up at Pitesti.

[REDACTED]

25X1

24. The naval shipyards at Galati, Braila, Oltenita and Turnu Severin built fishing boats which were really naval observation boats for the USSR. The engines were small; the suppliers apparently did not suspect the use to which they were being put.

25. The most important raw material for the chemical industry was synthetic resins produced from coal and coal tar. The resins were made by two factories: (a) the former Army Powder factory at Duesti Cloplea (on the outskirts of Bucharest), and (b) the Nitranil Factory in Bucharest, Strada Ziduri Intre Vii (the former Weissman-Apretura Factory). Both factories used the resins for the manufacture of general chemical and pharmaceutical products and unknown chemical products for military purposes. The pharmaceutical products were bad and doctors warned their patients against them.

26. The largest chemical industry was located near Fagaras in the mountains. A branch road from Fagaras to Muntenia led to the factory. Though its name is not know, it is stressed that it was not identical with the Nitramonia Factory built by the British in 1940, which produced gun cotton and chemicals for military purposes. The factory at Fagaras had the equipment

SECRET/CONTROL - U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY

- 4 -

required for the fixing of atmospheric nitrogen and produced a variety of chemicals for general and for military purposes. This industry was set up by the Germans during the last war. By the end of the war the Germans had brought nearly all the machinery required and it was completed after the war by the Rumanians and worked to capacity. The USSR considered this chemical plant more important even than the Resita Works.

27. Deposits of lead were found in northern Transylvania. The mines were worked by political prisoners.
28. Only very small quantities of potassium salts were found despite a strenuous search, sodium salts being more common in Rumania.

25X1

SECRET/CONTROL - U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY