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**U. S. OFFICIALS ONLY**THE SITARJEVEC LEAD AND BARITE MINE IN LITIJA NEAR LJUBLJANA, SLOVENIA

Lead ore is being mined in extraordinarily difficult and unbearable conditions in the Sitarjevec Mine, for the main pits are directly beneath the Sava River, so water constantly drips on the miners working in them. Accidents occur frequently. In 1950, there were eight fatalities. If the pumps stop working, a half hour stoppage would be sufficient to drown the men working at the face of the main mine.

To date, the lead ore has been shipped by rail to Mezica, where it has been mostly used to make water pipes.

At the beginning of December 1950, a group, which was working on drilling new pits, discovered a very rich vein of lead ore near Zavrstnik near Litija. A well known geologist estimated the vein contains one to 1½ million tons of rich lead ore. The directorate of the mine immediately informed the Main Directorate for the Ministry of Mines in Ljubljana, which appointed a commission under the leadership of geology Prof Alojza Mernik. After a 3-day inspection, the commission submitted a report to the General Directorate in Belgrade, which called for the construction of an installation at the Sitarjevec Mine, where ore could be collected and cleaned without being shipped to Mezica for this purpose. The project was approved. At the beginning of January this year, preparatory work was to begin on the construction of this installation provided there was no snow. It is planned to collect, break up, and clean the lead ore right at the mine by the beginning of the year, thus decreasing the expenses of transport to Mezica, for only clean ore will be shipped there which will be ready for melting and processing.

Barite is also mined at the Sitarjevec Mine. This barite is necessary for the domestic chemical industry for the production of dyes.

The opening of the new vein of ore increases the capacity of the Sitarjevec Mine from six carloads a day to eight to ten carloads. The mine produces two to three carloads of barite per day; there are no prospects of opening new veins of barite.

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Josko Mojstrovac is administrative director, Engr Mitja Burlin is technical director, and Borut Preaml is political leader of the Sitarjevec Mine. The mine employs 468 miners, 17 technical and administrative personnel, and has six administrations and directorates. It was working in two 8-hour shifts up to October 1950, but is now working in three 6-hour shifts because of the difficulty of the work.

About 100 prisoners, sentenced to hard labor for over 10 years, have been working in the mine for over a year. These prisoners are scheduled to be used for the most dangerous work.

The pumps are constantly breaking down because they are obsolete and because they are in constant use. Spare parts are late in arriving or do not arrive at all so the miners fend for themselves as best they can. They often collect contributions among themselves on paydays and try to buy spare parts in other cities wherever they may be available.

The Sitarjevec Mine has its own mess. At the end of October, this mess was still working well and feeding the miners with the required number of calories called for to maintain manpower classified as doing heavy work. The food had deteriorated in quantity and quality by November and December, so that the miners had to report for medical aid. Dr Miroslav Lukez  50X1-HUM  
 is sending the ill to rest homes for 7-day vacations, from which 50X1-HUM  
they return better fed and in condition to work in the pits. Almost 60 percent of the miners are tuberculous; no penicillin is available.

Prisoners who report for medical attention are either not brought before the doctor but taken care of a medical attendant, who sends them off with some pill, or are accused of being saboteurs in which case they know what is awaiting them. Consequently, they do not seek medical attention but keep on working until they drop. They sleep in a barracks, built by the German occupation troops to accommodate 60 persons, which is guarded by 12 militiamen.

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LAYING A CONCRETE FOUNDATION IN THE NORTHERN HARBOR OF SPLIT

Laying a concrete foundation as a base for concrete base and wall blocks is involving some technical difficulty which the Split City Construction Enterprise is scarcely overcoming. The coastal wall of the northern harbor of Split is built on a concrete foundation, whose thickness varies from one to 4 meters depending on the contour of the sea bottom. The foundation is  $6\frac{1}{2}$  meters wide at the crown; the fore part has a gradient of 1:5; and the rear is vertical. The foundation is levelled at 9 meters below the mean sea level. The coast road is 100 meters from the natural coastline and is parallel to it. Consequently, underwater construction and concreting has to be done far from the source of materials.

The first work on the concrete foundation was done before sufficient experience had been acquired, because this type of work had only been done once before on the Yugoslav coast. This was when conditions were completely different and foreign specialists were available, who are not available today. Yugoslav technical personnel had had no previous experience in this type of work.

The present work on the concrete foundation is divided into two phases. During the first phase, the foundation is to be laid across excavated clay  $3\frac{1}{2}$  to 4 meters thick which requires a small number of forms of large cubature. The second phase is to be characterized by the use of a large number of forms of small cubature. In this proportionately longer part of the work, the foundation is to have a thickness of one to  $1\frac{1}{2}$  meters.

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There is no general ferry, possibly because the great depth of the water and the considerable distance between the natural coastline and the road make the construction of a ferry uneconomical and impractical. Instead of a ferry, there is a barge equipped with a mixer and tower used for contraction [used as a crane?]. Yugoslav planners did not anticipate equipping the barge with four anchor winches at the time it was built so it is very unsuitable today. Work has begun on fitting it with four anchors and three winches for hoisting and transferring forms. (Anchor winches will make it possible to hold the barge in a stable position while concreting is being done. This is important because of the strong currents in the basin of the northern harbor).

A wooden form on the principle of forms used for laying monolithic concrete sea walls was first utilized for the foundation. The vertical beams of the form, 13x16 centimeters in thickness, were about one meter apart; three horizontal beams, 21x23 centimeters in thickness, were placed on each side. The form was ~~covered~~<sup>sheathed</sup> with boards 48 millimeters thick. The form was not brought up to sea level and fixed there, but was brought up to a height of 4 meters, which is as much as the maximum height of the foundation in the first phase. Since this form was first laid on the bottom without any kind of anchorings, the concreting was done under very difficult conditions. When the concrete was poured so it did not come up even on all sides, it made the side where the concrete was heaviest tend to move the form from its original position. Although this work was constantly supervised by divers, all the care exercised was in vain; 4 months of work were lost without any progress being made.

Then, two Italian technicians arrived and took over. [redacted]

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[redacted] The form was then laid solidly. To prevent the horizontal beams from breaking when the form was moved, they were reinforced by steel cables by which the form was hoisted. The form was ballasted even more than was necessary for its sinking.

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In the second phase, the form was made of wood and iron. The vertical beams were of wood, 13x16 centimeters in thickness, as those used in the first phase. Instead of horizontal beams, iron supports 200 square meters in cross section, were utilized. The sheathing of the form consisted of boards 48 square meters in cross-sectional area. This method eliminated the possibility of the horizontal beams breaking. The form itself was thus made heavier and stronger and it was possible for the work to progress further. The original form was utilized 13 times when work was first begun, but did not last long enough to even finish the first part of the foundation. The new form is now fitted with special rings for hoisting, with a special winch for tightening its opposite sides, etc according to the practice of Italian technicians.

How is the work of laying, transferring, and fixing the form done?

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The finished form is filled with stone so it will sink. It is first put into position with a crane. The form is kept open by a cross piece on top to keep it from folding up when it is being lifted. When the form is laid on the bottom, the cross piece is removed so it will not be in the way of concreting and levelling. Getting the form set in the right direction and at the right depth has presented a great deal of difficulty to Yugoslav workers, for it had to be done in the middle of the sea without a single guiding point. Work with the crane was very inconvenient because of its inconvenient height. The cables to which the form was tied tended to go askew so they compressed the form and made it difficult to separate the form from the concrete. The form was separated from the concrete from the sides and pulled along the bottom to a new position. Work on this was very slow, inaccurate, and uneconomical because the form was being constantly damaged and becoming unusable from being dragged along the uneven bottom of the sea. Because of lack of a small crane, a 30-ton crane was utilized. This crane was consequently constantly tied up with this work and could not be utilized for other jobs, whereas a smaller crane could very well have done the job.

With the arrival of the Italian technicians, a barge was set up from which the work of concreting and transferring the form is done. The barge is equipped with three winches (two serve for lifting the two free ends of the

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form, and the third for lifting the other two corners). The form is pulled by the barge with the help of anchor winches to the selected position and put in position within centimeters of the point desired. The new form is equipped with four rings on the corners, the cables for lifting have special hooks on the ends, so the work of tying the form has been decreased from a matter of hours to a matter of minutes. The diver formerly had to take a great deal of time to get the form into position every time it was moved, because he had to tie it with steel cables which he tied around the horizontal beams and hooked with clips.

A steel cable is used to encircle the new form. This cable extends from a small winch (mounted on the sheathing of the form) to the lining of the form to which it is tied. In the process of winding the <sup>cable</sup> ~~line~~ on the winch, the diver pulls together the outer sheathing and the inner lining and encircles the form with the cable. To prevent the cable from being concreted, special concrete rings, scrap "salonite" [trade name?] tubing, or iron encasement are used on the cable.

The concreting of the foundation is done from the barge by a contraction system. Installations are brought to the barge by sea, loaded on the barge immediately, while the "tucenac" [hard rock?] and cement are brought by another barge. The arrival of the Italian technicians has made it possible to decrease work hours 35 percent, and decrease the expenses of laying a meter of concrete 20 percent.

ENTERPRISES FOR JOINT ACTIVITY IN IMPORT AND EXPORT OF PRODUCTS OF  
ASSOCIATED PRODUCERS

After the recent reorganization, most of the operational activities connected with foreign trade were transferred to the jurisdiction of the people's republics (the Main Administrations for Import and Export).

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These newly established enterprises for joint import and export retain the names of the former import and export agencies, because of the connections and goodwill the latter had established abroad. The new enterprises do not have planned quotas they must fulfill because they are not independently responsible for such quotas. They do have materials plans which consist of the parts of the whole plan for which individual member enterprises have been made responsible. Export and import is done through an administrative council composed of one representative from each member enterprise. The only exception is the "Jugometal" Enterprise which has only two member enterprises; it has an administrative council of 15 members and an executive council of six members. Where the number of member enterprises is large, making the number of representative large and the administrative council unwieldy, an executive council of three to five members is selected from among the members of the administrative council.

The jurisdiction of the administrative council is determined by almost unanimous agreement of the member enterprises. The jurisdiction of the executive council is determined by laws on the organization and activity of such councils in individual enterprises. The jurisdiction of the administrative council is analagous to that of the worker's council in an enterprise, except for some broader functions which have been added, such as ruling on the acceptance of new members, ruling on contributions, and ruling on stoppage of work.

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It is compulsory for administrative councils to hold regular meetings every 3 months, and for executive councils to hold meetings once a month. Resolutions passed at meetings become law if over half the members are present and if the majority voted for them. Resolutions passed are binding for all member enterprises regardless of the way their representatives voted.

The question of financing the enterprises for joint import and export is one of the most difficult problems facing these enterprises; it has not yet been solved. Financing is now done by the same method as it was done previously,

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fulfillment of import and export materials plans and exchange credits plans, and control and general supervision of foreign trade activity are under the jurisdiction of the federal Ministry of Foreign Trade.

The carrying out of foreign trade activity is completely decentralized to producers. Producers by one or more production branches have made agreements among themselves to establish enterprises for joint import and export. In August and September 1950, the following enterprises or agencies for joint activity in import and export were established:

The "Centroprom" (Central Trade),

The "Agroprodukt" (Agricultural Products) for the sale of agricultural food products,

The "Jugodrvno" (Yugoslav Wood) for the export of wood,

The "Jugolek" (Yugoslav Medicines) for the sale of medicinal herbs,

The "Hempro" (Chemical Products) for the import and export of chemical products

The "Tehnopromet" (Technical Trade) for the import and export of metals, metal products, and other technical material,

The "Jugometal" (Yugoslav Metal) for the import and export of ores and metals,

The "Centrotekstil" (Central Textiles) for the import and export of textiles, and hides,

The "Jugoelektro" (Yugoslav Electric) for the import and export of electro-technical materials,

The "Jugoauto" (Yugoslav Automobile) for the import and export of motor vehicles and parts,

The "Jugotehna" (Yugoslav Technical) for the import and export of tools and other technical materials,

The "Invest-Import" for the import of equipment,

The "Jugofolklor" (Yugoslav Folklore) for the sale of domestic handicraft and art work, and

The "Rundap" Import and Export Mining Enterprise.

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It is planned to finance these enterprises in the future from contributions from member enterprises and margins.

To cover operating expenses for personnel and materials, enterprises for joint import and export draw up advance accounts of income and outgo, which the administrative council approves.

Each member enterprise is entitled to give notice of withdrawal from the joint enterprise on 1 April or 1 October each year. The terminal period is 3 months.

To date, the following irregular tendencies have been noted in these enterprises:

1. Certain members are not complying with agreements they made upon joining. Although they agreed not to act independently or over the heads of the joint enterprise, some of them are making individual contracts abroad.
2. A considerable number of member enterprises have representatives abroad, which is not in the interest of the national economy as a whole.
3. Mutual cooperation among member enterprises and the joint enterprise is not what it should be. Some member enterprises are showing particularism and self interest for themselves and their republics.
4. The qualitative composition of administrative councils does not always rise to the responsibilities involved. Sometimes the rulings of administrative councils are irregular and have to be abolished.

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6. Some enterprises for joint import and export are not adequately organized or staffed to take care of their responsibilities.

DETAILED DESCRIPTIONS OF ENTERPRISES OF ASSOCIATED PRODUCERS

The "Centrotekstil" Enterprise is an enterprise of associated producers of textiles and footwear (for joint import and export) It imports and exports

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raw materials for textiles, semifinished goods, finished goods, furnishings, and auxiliary material, as well as raw and fine hides. This enterprise was established by the General Directorate for Textiles, Hides, Footwear, and Hemp of Serbia; the Main Directorate for the Provincial Industries of the Vojvodina, the General Directorate for Textiles and Hides of Croatia, the General Directorate for Hides and Textiles of Slovenia, the General Directorate for Textiles and Hides of Macedonia, and the General Directorate for Textiles and Hides of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The "Centrotekstil" Enterprise is administered by an administrative council composed of a representative from each member organization. These representatives are the commercial directors of each directorate, except for the representative of the General Directorate for Hides and Textiles of Slovenia, who is a general engineer and also president of the administrative council. The president of the administrative council has two substitutes. The administrative council meets once a month, but the director of the enterprise is in constant touch by telephone with the president of the administrative council. The director is obliged to call the president at least once a week, usually on Fridays. At each meeting of the administrative council, its next meeting is scheduled so members will be well prepared for the subsequent meeting. Minutes are kept of each meeting and forwarded to the Ministry for Foreign Trade.

To acquaint members of the administrative council with the foreign trade situation, the enterprise's coordinating group compiles and forwards to the council every 7 to 10 days a report on opportunities in the foreign market. Members of the administrative council also receive regular surveys every 10 days, which contain statistics on the standing of each item exported or imported as it relates to the half-year plan, balances for the past 10 days and total balances to date, payments for the past ten days and total payments to date, imports for the past 10 days and total imports to date, and information on goods en route.

The "Centrotekstil" Enterprise has some problems which make its work difficult, such as the method by which financing should be done. Although financing through contributions made by member enterprises may not be the

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best method, it is better than financing by using margins. Member producers thus feel the enterprise is their own and are stimulated to a greater degree of interest in it. What sources shall be used to pay contributions to the "Centrotekstil" Enterprise, since the present structure and normal administrative and sales expenses of member enterprises make it impossible for contributions to be paid out of these expenses?

A separate problem is posed by the question of how to assure continuity in the work of members of the administrative council. It often happens that representatives at council meetings are frequently changed. Sometimes, personnel who are not satisfactorily instructed are sent as representatives and therefore cannot actually participate in the council's work and the passing of rulings.

The "Jugometal" Enterprise for Joint Import and Export is an enterprise composed of associated producers of ores and metals. The enterprise is administered by an administrative council, made up of representatives from all mining enterprises, and an executive council made up of the main directors of the former federal General Directorate for Metallurgy and the <sup>former</sup> federal General Directorate for Ferrous Metallurgy.

The "Jugometal" Enterprise has not yet achieved the cooperation with member producers which had been expected. The executive council has been meeting an average of once a month, but has not been made up of representatives of member producers, who are members of the administrative council. The latter has met only once up to May.

The "Jugometal" Enterprise purchases goods from mining enterprises and then sells them abroad. It does not have any plan of its own, but only concludes sales and purchase agreements with its member producers on the sale of ores. Consequently, member enterprises are not directly interested in export activities and the proper operation of the enterprise.

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the mining products which they sell to the "Jugometal" Enterprise are sold at exceedingly low prices (below actual production costs) and do not change. Hence the establishment of better prices on the foreign markets is no stimulant to member enterprises. The existing Foundation for Making Prices Uniform acts as a special deterrent, for all positive differences in prices are put into the foundation and all negative differences are paid out of it [Redacted]

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The administrative council of the "Jugometal" Enterprise has shown little interest or activity because it could not further its work on account of the dynamic quality of its activities. The members of the executive council, the main directors of the directorates (director of copper, director of zinc, etc) have the rank of assistant ministers and have been too occupied with their work in the directorates to have time to spare for the operation of the "Jugometal" Enterprise.

Financing is another problem which has not been solved. The problem of credits has not been solved because the present laws on credits make it impossible for any enterprise, which is not responsible for a plan, to get credit from the People's Bank. The enterprise can dispose of resources from the accounts of member enterprises only with the approval of state agencies. All this hinders the work of the enterprise.

After the reorganization of the federal General Directorate for Ferrous Metallurgy, representatives of the republic directorates, mostly commercial directors, were brought into the administrative council of the "Jugometal" Enterprise, so it is now functioning a little better.

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