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COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

SUBJECT Construction of a Uranium Ore Washing
Plant in the Horni Slavkov Area

PLACE
ACQUIRED

DATE OF
INFO.

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50X1-HUM

1. Between March and July 1952, an installation, generally called an ore washing plant, was under construction near Uranium Ore Mine No 17. A temporary building provided with rooms for the drying of miners' clothes was also under construction in the area of Mine No 17.

construction work was still under way on this ore washing plant in 1954. 50X1-HUM

2. Prior to May 1953, when an amnesty was granted for Czech forced laborers, about 8,000 convicts, including Germans, were detained in camps in the Horni Slavkov area for work in uranium ore mines. These convicts were detained in the following camps:

Camp No 12, with about	2,800 convicts
Prokop Camp, with more than	3,000 convicts
Svatopluk Camp, with about	1,500 convicts
Lesnice Camp, with about	7,000 convicts

After May 1953, the number of Czech convicts detained for work in uranium ore mines dropped considerably. The number of prisoners detained in Camp No 12 decreased to about 700 or 800.

The convicts who were given amnesty were discharged without delay. Some of these convicts stayed in the Horni Slavkov area in order to work as free laborers. Detailed figures were not available. It was believed, however, that the amnesty has had a detrimental effect on the production of uranium ore. Immediately after the amnesty went into force, free workers arrived in the Horni Slavkov area from all points of Czechoslovakia. Many Slovaks were among these workers. They were from 20 to about 50 years old. The arrival of such workers was observed at Horni Slavkov in July 1953.

50X1-HUM

3

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50X1-HUM

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