

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

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THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
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 (FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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1. When the Soviets took over Rumania, they sent in their experts to explore all mining areas for the purpose of ascertaining the presence of uranium. In 1947, the prospectors reported the discovery of traces of uranium in Transylvania, Maramures and the Banat. Strict secrecy surrounded the exploration up to 1950 and very little is known about the results. In 1951, however, increased exploration was noticeable, especially in the Banat, and during the summer of 1951 the presence of uranium ore in the Orsova area was confirmed. Samples of the mineral were sent to the USSR for analysis.
2. In 1952, exploration proceeded most intensively in the Turnu-Severin and Tirgu Jiu areas, but no positive information filtered through the tight security surrounding the explorations.
3. The year 1953 can be considered the beginning of large scale technical-scientific search for uranium. In December of 1953 the joint Rumanian-Soviet company, Sovromura, was created and the organization and direction of the exploration activities was entrusted to this company. Generously supported by the Soviets, the company had at its disposal expert management and specialists, modern equipment, and ample financial support. The company's activities assumed an industrial-scientific character and within a few months had suitable establishments located in well chosen and tested areas. Among these, the most important are those located in:
 - a. Baia Mare: the two fields, which have not been exactly pinpointed, are reported to cover an area of 100 by 150 and 1,000 by 800 hectares. Numerous buildings were observed in this area, some of which served as dwellings for workers.
 - b. Baita: area very close to the town of Baita.
 - c. Anina: areas not identified.

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

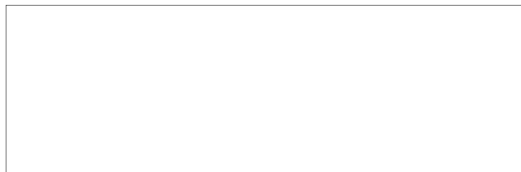
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- d. Liteni: area northwest of the village of Liteni; exploration activities exclusively directed by the Soviets.
 - e. Topolita: area of exploitation in the upper valley of the Topolita River. The mineral is reported to be processed on the spot and then shipped to Galati by river. There are about 1,000 workers employed at Topolita, among whom there appear to be many political prisoners.
 - f. Arpasu de Jos: areas not identified.
 - g. Stalin (Brasov): areas not identified.
 - h. Alba Iulia: in the Muntii Metalicii Mountains area, southeast slopes; all establishments are under direct Soviet control.
 - i. Zarnesti: area of exploitation in the mountainous region of Ezeru Mare.
4. In August 1954, successive experimental drillings were reported in the areas of Fagaras and Rupea, east of the road leading from Rupea to Homorod. The samples were shipped by rail from Sercaia to the USSR.
 5. An establishment equipped to process the uranium ore is reported to be in Turnu Severin under the name of Prodaliment. It has been ascertained that ore processed in Turnu Severin comes from a mine recently discovered in the upper valley of the Topolita River and that the entire output is sent to the USSR.
 6. Although the data needed to estimate the present production of uranium ore is lacking, it is certain that numerous deposits have been located in Rumania because of the importance attached by the Soviets to the setting up of a mining organization and by the frequency of news of ore shipments to the USSR.



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