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CITE: (U)

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SERIAL: (U)

COUNTRY: (U) NORTH KOREA (KN).

(b) (2)

SUBJ: (b) (2) MINES AND UNDERGROUND PLANT IN
SONGCH'ON COUNTY, NORTH KOREA (U)

WARNING: (U) THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED
INTELLIGENCE. XXXX XXXXXX XX XXXXXXXXXXXX XXXXXXXXXXXXXX.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

DOI: (U) 20030314.

REQS: (U) (b) (2)

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SUMMARY: (U) NORTH KOREA'S SONGCH'ON COUNTY HAS BEEN THE SITE OF
LEAD AND ZINC MINING SINCE JAPANESE COLONIAL PERIOD. MANY OF THE
DEPOSITS WERE PROBABLY DEPLETED AND ABANDONED. IN THE EARLY 1950'S,

NORTH KOREA PROBABLY CONSTRUCTED AN UNDERGROUND ARMS PLANT IN ONE OF THE ABANDONED MINE PITS IN THE COUNTY. ENCLOSURE.

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TEXT: 1. (U) THE SONGCH'ON MINE IN SONGCH'ON COUNTY

(b) (2) SOUTH P'YONGAN PROVINCE, DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA (DPRK), WHICH HAD FOUR OPERATIONAL PITS AS OF 1994, PROVIDED WORKERS FOR CIVIL ENGINEERING WORK. OF THE PRIMARY ORE DEPOSITS IN SONGCH'ON COUNTY, GALENITE AND SPHALERITE DEPOSITS WERE BEING EXPLOITED SINCE AS EARLY AS THE JAPANESE COLONIAL PERIOD. SOURCES REPORTED THE DPRK CONSTRUCTED AN UNDERGROUND ARMS FACTORY IN AN ABANDONED MINE PIT IN SONGCH'ON COUNTY DURING THE KOREAN WAR.

2. (U) SONGCH'ON MINE

SOURCE REPORTED THAT TWO COMPANY COMMANDERS ASSIGNED TO THE SONGCH'ON MINE WERE AMONG THE WORKERS WHO RECEIVED COMMENDATIONS FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE AQUEDUCTS BETWEEN KAECH'ON (b) (2) AND T'AESONG

(b)(7)(E)

3. (U) ORE DEPOSITS IN SONGCH'ON COUNTY

THE DPRK PUBLISHED A PAPER ON ORE DEPOSITS IN THE SONGCH'ON MINE AND A GEOLOGICAL SURVEY CONDUCTED DURING THE JAPANESE COLONIAL PERIOD IDENTIFIED ORE DEPOSITS FOUND AT MINES IN SONGCH'ON COUNTY AS IT EXISTED AT THE TIME.

A. (U) ORE DEPOSITS (b) (2)

SOURCE PUBLISHED A RESEARCH PAPER ENTITLED, "THE STRUCTURAL MODIFICATION AND MAIN COMBINATION FEATURE OF SPHALERITE OF SONGCHON MINE DEPOSIT" (SIC) BY ((PAK)) HYE-SUK AND ((KIM)) HUNG-MYONG. THE PAPER PROVIDED THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION ON LEAD AND ZINC DEPOSITS OF THE SONGCH'ON MINE -- THE ORE DEPOSITS IN THE SONGCH'ON MINE WERE COMPOSED OF MAINLY OF SPHALERITE, GALENITE, AND PYRITE WITH SOME SIDERITE, QUARTZ LATITE, AND CALCITE. X-RAY ANALYSIS REVEALED THAT THE REPRESENTATIVE SPHALERITE DEPOSITS DISTRIBUTED IN THE UNSU SECTION OF THE SONGCH'ON MINE WERE OF HIGH VALUE.

B. (U) GALENITE AND SPHALERITE (b) (2)

DURING THE JAPANESE COLONIAL PERIOD, GALENITE AND SPHALERITE DEPOSITS IN THE FORMER SONGCH'ON COUNTY WERE BEING MINED OR WERE KNOWN TO EXIST.

(1) (U) GALENITE AND SPHALERITE

THE SOGURI MINE (STC 4258 7126 6849 7006 1472) WAS MINING GALENITE AND SPHALERITE DEPOSITS LOCATED IN --

- SOP'I (b) (2) UNSU VILLAGE (KOREAN -- RI), SAGA SUB-COUNTY (KOREAN -- MYON), (FIELD COMMENT -- NOW PART OF UN'GOK WORKERS' SETTLEMENT (KOREAN -- NODONGJAGU)

(b) (2) (APPROXIMATE))

- KICH'ON (b) (2), SOGU VILLAGE (KOREAN -- RI), SAGA SUB-COUNTY, (FIELD COMMENT -- NOW PART OF CHANGNIM WORKERS' SETTLEMENT (b) (2))

(2) (U) GALENITE

- THE KOCH'OK MINE (STC 7559 1439 7006 1472) WAS MINING GALENITE IN KOCH'ONG VILLAGE (KOREAN -- NI) (b) (2) KURYONG SUB-COUNTY (FIELD COMMENT -- NOW PART OF UN'GOK WORKERS' SETTLEMENT).

- THE SAMDOK MINE (STC 0005 1795 7006 1472) WAS WORKING GALENITE DEPOSITS IN SAMDONG VILLAGE (KOREAN -- NI) (b) (2) SAMDONG SUB-COUNTY, SONGCH'ON GUN (FIELD COMMENT -- NOW PART OF SINSONG VILLAGE (KOREAN -- NI) (b) (2) (APPROXIMATE)).

(3) (U) ADDITIONAL LOCATIONS OF GALENITE AND SPHALERITE DEPOSITS

- KUNJA VILLAGE (KOREAN -- RI) (b) (2) TONGSON SUB-COUNTY (FIELD COMMENT -- PROBABLY NOW PART OF YONGSAN VILLAGE (KOREAN -- NI) (b) (2))

- MAJON VILLAGE (KOREAN -- NI) (b) (2) SONGCH'ON SUB-COUNTY (FIELD COMMENT -- NOW PART OF AMP'O VILLAGE (KOREAN -- RI) (b) (2)),

- HUNG Dong VILLAGE (KOREAN -- NI) (b) (2) (FIELD COMMENT -- NOW PART OF YONGHUNG VILLAGE (KOREAN -- NI)

(b) (2) AND

- TAE BU VILLAGE (KOREAN -- RI) (b) (2) (FIELD COMMENT -- NOW PART OF AMP'O VILLAGE.

4. (U) UNDERGROUND PLANTS IN SONGCH'ON COUNTY

SOURCES PROVIDED THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION ON UNDERGROUND PLANTS LOCATED IN SONGCH'ON COUNTY.

A. (U) UNIDENTIFIED UNDERGROUND FACTORY IN KUNJA VILLAGE

ACCORDING TO ONE SOURCE, THE LATE KIM IL-SONG ORDERED THE CONSTRUCTION OF AN UNDERGROUND FACTORY IN KUNJA VILLAGE DURING THE KOREAN WAR. SOURCE ALSO REPORTED THAT ON 21 FEBRUARY 1953, THE LATE KIM IL-SONG INSPECTED AN UNIDENTIFIED UNDERGROUND FACTORY THAT WAS CONSTRUCTED IN AN ABANDONED MINE PIT THAT WAS 1,200 TO 1,500 METERS LONG. (b)(7)(E) ANOTHER SOURCE

NOTED THAT THE LATE KIM IL-SONG VISITED HISTORIC RELICS IN KUNJA VILLAGE (KOREAN -- RI), SONGCH'ON COUNTY ON 21 FEBRUARY 1953 (b)(7)(E)

(b)(7)(E)

B. (U) ARMS FACTORY IN SONGCH'ON COUNTY MINE

(b)(7)(E)

ACCORDING TO SOURCE, IN 1951, A SOVIET EMBASSY OFFICIAL ASSIGNED TO THE DPRK REPORTED IN A CONFIDENTIAL REPORT THAT AN ARMS FACTORY EXISTED IN A PIT OF A FORMER JAPANESE LEAD AND TIN (SIC)

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ENCL: (U) AVAILABLE ON WEBSITES -- ONE ENCLOSURE.

(b) (2)

DISSEM: (U) FIELD -- NONE.

WARNING: (U) XXXX XXXXXX XX XXXXXXXXXXXX XXXXXXXXXXXXXX.

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