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	Country Subject	Bulgaria Economic - Coal mine		DATE OF INFORMATION 1952		
	How Published	Daily newspaper		DATE DIST. 27 Aug 1952		
•	WHERE PUBLISHED	Sofia		NO. OF PAGES 2		
	date Published	27 Mar 1952				
	LANGUAGE	Bulgarian		SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.		
	THE POCKET CONTRESS INFOCUMENT AFTER THE ANTONIAL REFILES		THIS IS UNEVA	HS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION		
	SOURCE	Rabotnichesko Delo.		•		

SECRETCONTIGS OF SHAFT AT "GBORGI DIMITROY" COAL MINE

The "7 Septemvri" shaft is one of the largest in the "Georgi Dimitrov" mine at Dimitrovo. Plan fulfillment for the entire mine depends to a great extent upon the execution of this shaft's production plan. Through the efforts of the party and the help of the Soviet Union, the production process in the shaft has been almost completely mechanized. Powerful coal combines replace 95 percent of the manual labor. Thousands of tons of coal are mined and loaded every day with these machines. They have considerably lightened the work of the miners." The miners' income has also increased.

The 1952 plan for the sheft requires even better use of the full capacity of the machines, and good operational technique.

Since the beginning of 1952, however, not one of the automatic coal combines has operated at full capacity.

Each of them is idle for 2 to 3 hours daily. Machine No 4 is idle 6 hours out of 24; machine No 20, with Todor Atanasov in charge, is idle 4-5 hours every day and has extracted 50 percent less coal than in 1951.

The machines are frequently and simlessly moved from one work area to another. Recently, machines No 4 and 5 were continually interchanged, because of "technical reasons." Yet every displacement of coal combine costs time. Even more deplorable is the situation of machine No 5, which has been in continuous movement throughout the shaft since last fall. When the combine operator or any mamber of the shift is asked why the machine is idle, he answers: "We don u hard; go ask the superintendent." The technicians often pass by the machine, but none of them shows any interest.

Maintenance of the machines is most unsatisfactory. Those in charge of the machines do not observe the periods prescribed for cleaning and lubrication. Most of the shifts take over the machines without cleaning them before who start

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of operations. What does the fact that Maxim Ivanov's combine as not been cleaned for a month, indicate, if not a bad, unsocialistic ittitude toward technology?

Maximum exploitation of the machines depends largely on the condition of the equipment in the shart.

There is hardly a day when the conveyer belts do not stop because of the lack of cars. Each shift loses 2 hours in repairing belts or waiting for cars. With the stopping of one belt, production is halted in an entire sector of the shaft. There are no objective reasons for such a state of affairs. The main culprits are senior technicians Arsov, Rangel Khristov, Engineer Pamukchiev, and the superintendent of the shaft, Engineer Koev, who do not adequately supervise the placing of conveyer belts and the operation of cosl combines.

Conveyer belts are installed incorrectly, without a level. Because of this, the belt buckles and slips off the rollers. In striving to increase production, the technical staff have not paid enough attention to these things -- not realizing that herein lies one of the main reasons for nonfulfillment of the plan.

Maintenance of other equipment is not carried out any better. The electric motor of the sector to which machine No 4 is attached does not function regularly. The belts there transport only half of the coal they should normally transport.

Because of all these irregularities, thousands of tons of coal are lost every month. The elaministrative staff seem to have overlooked these facts, for no measures nave been taken for their elimination. According to statements made by the superintendent, Engineer Koev, and Engineer Panukchiev, the idle periods are legal and unavoidable, because conditions impose them. This is, of course, far from being true. Had the engineering-technical personnel paid more attention to the installation of belts and the procurement of cars, had more regular supervision been exercised over the maintenance and use of the equipment, the picture would be quite different. However, among the supervisors, there is much complacency; they rest on the laurels of past successes.

The party leadership also bears great guilt in the matter, because of its lack of interest in production and failure to exercise its right of control. Relations between the superintendent and the party secretary are tense. This we reflects badly on the general work. The superintendent, Engineer Koev, does not seek the support of the party organization and of the workers in solving production problems. There have been cases when he most shamefully threw out workers who had come to him on official business.

Criticism is stifled. When the worker Vlado Guirov, sectional party secretary, wrote to the press on the bad state of maintenance of the shaft equipment, he was reprimended for not having asked the approval of his superior.

The workers' complaints and symptoms of unhappiness are disregarded. At all meetings and consultations the workers alone are blamed.

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