July 1945

WAR MINERALS REPORT * CLASS C

Report of the Bureau of Mines Secretary of the Interior, Harold L. Ickes

FERRO MINE Bernalillo County, New Mexico

(Supplement to Summary Report - Mullen)

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Mine Workings

The Ferro mine is a slope mine opening near the southwest corner of the northeast quarter of Section 18 (Fig. 2). The main slope is 620 feet long, driven N. 70° E. on the dip of the bed. This dip is from two to five degrees to the east. Six rooms have been turned to the right along the strike of the bed from the main slope. A butt entry, 600 feet long, has been driven north from the bottom of the main slope. Ten rooms have been turned from the butt entry to the east on the dip of the bed. From a second entry, 50 feet west of the butt entry, three rooms have been turned to the west. A back slope 50 feet north of the main slope and 480 feet long connects with all the workings and provides excellent ventilation. Several slants and rooms have been opened from the face of the main slope, extending the development to a total distance of 860 feet on the dip. All openings are will timbered. About 20 inches of clay and shale are removed from the roadways to provide headroom for haulage. The waste is used to build stoppings in abandoned breakthroughs to control ventilation. About 400 gallons of water a day accumulates in the main slope and is used to spray the various working places and haulageways, or hoisted to the surface.

The coal is blasted with permissible powder and electric primers. Undercutting is done with a Goodman shortwall machine using a 5-foot cutter-bar. The undercuttis made in a narrow seam of bone and clay at the bottom of the coal bed as far as possible. The resulting bug dust is hoisted to the suface as waste. The usual working force consists of six miners, a rope rider, and a hoistman.

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