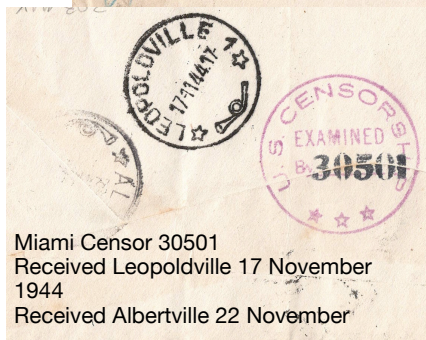


Uranium for the Atom Bomb

Shinkolobwe mine Katanga Province, Belgian Congo had uranium ore (pitchblende) of incredible richness (average 65% uranium oxide) vs. uranium ore from North America contained an average of 0.0002% uranium oxide. This ore was crucial to the Manhattan Project. Great Lakes Railroad transported the ore from the mine to the Port of Lobito, Angola later Matadi, Belgian Congo for ship transport to the USA. U235 is an unstable isotope that, when hit with a neutron, causes it to split into two smaller elements, releasing three neutrons and incredible energy (fusion). The three neutrons smash into other nuclei causing a cascade of incredible energy (a nuclear chain reaction). This principle was used in the first atomic device "Little Boy". The ore was refined at Oak Ridge, Tenn. "Little Boy" was dropped on Hiroshima 6 August, 1945.



Miami Censor 30501
 Received Leopoldville 17 November
 1944
 Received Albertville 22 November

Posted 30 October, 1944 Washington, DC. **China Clipper** air mail two ounces at 60 cents/half ounce. Circular date stamps and elliptical "6" cancellations.

Leopoldville 17 November 1944
 Belgian Congo censor tape
 Censor 47

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