

Tong Guan coal mine history research (1938-1945)

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Abstract: *After the war of Resistance against Japanese Aggression broke out, Shan Xi province became the rear base of the war of Resistance against Japanese aggression with a large number of organs, industrial and mining enterprises and personnel moving inward. During the war of Resistance against Japanese aggression, the demand for energy increased. At this time, coal was not only needed for people's life, but also became a strategic material and a necessity of war. During this particular historical conditions and the unique external environment, the only official with officer of coal was established in 1939, in 1940 began to coal, not only provides the longhai railway county during the Anti-Japanese War machine coal, solved the ShanXi coal shortage, for each big factory, common people provides the fuel, and made an indelible contribution for the victory of the war of resistance against Japan.*

Keywords: *Anti-Japanese War, Tongguan coal mine, contribution*

1. Introduction and literature review

Tongguan (now called Tongchuan) mining area is a bright pearl on the "black belt" of Weibei, with a long history of mining. In 1946, Tongguan was pronounced the same as tongguan in another county of Shanxi province, resulting in many communications misunderstandings and was renamed Tongchuan. Tongchuan coal field is located in central Shaanxi Province, tongchuan coal field contains more than five layers of coal, the coal produced is bituminous coal, with high carbon content, low ash content, high calorific value and other characteristics, coal quality is good.

Although there are some researches on Tongguan coal mine in academic circles, most of them focus on mine geology and geography, industry and mining economy, ecological restoration technology and coal resource development, etc. Tongguan coal mine is slightly mentioned. This paper focuses on the Tongguan coal mine during the War of Resistance against Japanese Aggression, based on the "enemy and puppet political archives" of Tongchuan Mine, in order to explore the relationship between the War of Resistance against Japanese aggression and the Tongguan coal mine.

2. Analysis

2.1. Conditions for the development of tongguan coal mine

2.1.1. The outbreak of the War of Resistance against Japanese Aggression provided a development opportunity for tongguan coal mine.

After the July 7th Incident, north and East China, where industries were concentrated, became the targets of the Japanese army, and the industries in the occupied areas were destroyed and plundered. In this case, the National government could only vigorously build southwest and northwest rear. After the Nationalist government moved the capital to Chongqing, it designated Xi 'an as the west Capital. Shaanxi became the rear base of the Anti-Japanese War in the northwest and an important support for the war. At this time, the energy industry in Shaanxi made great progress, among which the coal industry developed most rapidly.

From 1938 to 1939, the National government successively promulgated "Interim Regulations on Industrial and Mining Awards in Emergency Period", "Interim Regulations on Industrial Technology Awards and other regulations", which stipulated that: all the people of the Republic of China who set up important mining industries related to national defense and people's livelihood in the rear can apply for awards. The government will give incentives to the development of industry and mining industry from the following aspects: interest guarantee, advanced subsidy, tax reduction and exemption. These have provided superior policy and capital advantage for the development of shaanxi industry and mining industry.

Shanxi produces about 100,000 tons of coal every year, and about 500,000 to 600,000 tons of coal are imported from Shanxi and Henan. If new methods can be used for large-scale mining and traffic control at the same time, then the coal reserves in the province are rich, and why should people rely on them?

After the outbreak of the War of Resistance against Japanese Aggression, Shanxi and Henan fell successively. The coal supply from Shanxi and Henan to Shaanxi was cut off, and coal shortage occurred in Xi'an and other places. Such a situation forced the Shaanxi government to turn to the development of the province's resources.

2.1.2. The opening of The Xiantong Railway provides transportation guarantee for the development of Tongguan coal mine.

"Transportation is the hub of culture, the lifeblood of economy, local politics, social customs, are regarded as a transfer. They live in seclusive places, produce numerous products and block the mountains and gullies. Many goods are abandoned on the ground, and the people are stuck in their own ways."

After the July 7th Incident, the Anti-Japanese War was on the rise and eastern Henan fell to the enemy. Longhai Railway and various factories in Shaanxi used coal, which was mainly supplied to eastern Henan. Under such circumstances, in January 1939, Longhai Railway Administration, together with shaanxi Provincial government, proposed to organize the Tongguan coal mine and construct the Xiantong Branch line.

Xiantong Branch line of Longhai Railway. The xiantong railway began to be measured in August 1936 and was built in 1939. In February 1940, it was opened to Sanyuan County and began to operate. In January 1942, he was repaired to tongguan coal mine. It cost 12.75 million yuan. The whole Line of Xiantong Railway was opened to traffic, which became the link between Tongguan mining area and Guanzhong plain. It solved the transportation problem of tongguan coal mine, the largest government-run coal mine in northwest China at that time, and changed the transportation and marketing conditions of Tongguan coal mine.

The development of Tongguan coal mine can be clearly divided into two stages from 1942. Before 1942, the mining volume of Tongguan coal mine was small, ranging from 20,000 tons to 80,000 tons. In 1942, with the opening and operation of Longhai Railway In Hamtong section, it provided great convenience for tongguan coal mine to transport coal abroad, and its coal mining capacity reached more than 120,000 tons per year.

2.1.3. The internal industrial relocation during the war provided personnel and technical support for the development of Tongguan coal mine.

People are the key factor in coal mine operation. Only by giving full play to people's subjective initiative can productivity be created. According to the statistics of the Ministry of Real Estate in 1937, there were only 10 modern industries in Shaanxi before the War of Resistance against Japanese Aggression. After the outbreak of the War of Resistance against Japanese aggression, 42 factories from the eastern region moved to Shaanxi successively, and the number of internal migration was second only to Sichuan and Hunan. The relocation of the factory brought 15,000 tons of machinery and equipment and 760 technicians. The technicians who moved in and scattered technicians and skilled workers who retreated from the occupied areas came from the developed industrial areas and had skilled skills and new knowledge, which became the new source of power for the development of Shaanxi. The file "Register of Employees in Henan Province" vertically reflects the distribution of the number of henan technical personnel moving inside at that time.

From the preparation of tongguan coal mine in 1939 to June 1, 1940, the first plant of Tongguan coal mine began to produce coal, and the coal output reached 85,137 tons in 1941, the number of henan technical personnel engaged in coal mine production increased day by day.

It can be seen that most of the technical personnel at that time were from other provinces, and those from Henan took the first place. These technicians have solid mining and metallurgy professional knowledge, and rich practical experience, for tongguan mining area to supply fresh technology and personnel blood, driving the old model and old concept of innovation.

In addition, in tongguan coal mine managers, professional engineers accounted for more than 85%. Gao Guanjie, the first manager of the mine, graduated from the department of mining and metallurgy of Tokyo Imperial University. After returning to China, he served as the chief of engineering Department of Henan Zhongyuan Coal Mine Company, and then transferred to shaanxi Province Construction

Department as the technology chief and director of the Exploration Department. In the establishment of tongguan coal mine, he made great efforts in management, employment and management. He died in September 1944 due to overwork.

2.2. The establishment of Tongguan coal mine and its influence

2.2.1. Establishment of Tongguan coal mines

The overall outbreak of the War of Resistance against Japan, the achievement of the birth of tongguan coal mine. The mining areas in Shanxi and Henan, which occupied the dominant position with low coal prices, were successively lost, and the coal source of shaanxi's major factories and longhai railway was cut off. On the other hand, tongguan was in an important position in the rear, "230 li away from the province, which is the main road to northern Shaanxi through Sanyuan and Yaoxian". Tongguan is an important coal production area in Shaanxi province. Coal quality can be called top grade, solid crown northwest. Tongguan mining area's geographical and mineral advantages make it a breakthrough to solve coal shortage.

Under this situation, Qian Mulin, director of Longhai Railway, and Jiang Dingwen, president of Shaanxi Provincial government, actively organized the Tongguan coal mine and built the Xiantong railway. With the approval of the central government, the two sides established a preparatory committee in May 1939 to draw up the articles of association and rules of conduct. To set up a mining plant in a mining area, appoint a mining manager, buy the mining area, pay the price in accordance with the law, and buy the existing small commercial mines in the mining area. Tongguan coal mine was originally set up to raise 2 million yuan, of which the provincial side contributed one-third and the road side two-thirds, but neither side had enough. The Shaanxi provincial government, using land and prospecting fees as capital, offered 700,000 yuan, while longhai offered only 300,000 yuan.

On September 21, 1939, the first phase of tongguan Coal mine began construction. On September 30, the 12th meeting of the organizing committee decided to hire Gao Guanjie, who graduated from the department of Mining and metallurgy of Tokyo Imperial University in Japan, as the manager of Tongguan Coal Mine. On November 22, the tongguan coal mine preparatory committee paid 20,185 yuan for the private Xinmin coal mine's mining license. On December 2, and to 5900 yuan will be private qianyuan coal mining company mining rights to buy all. On December 30, a transport team was set up, shuttling between Xi 'an and Tongguan, to haul coal for Tongguan coal mine. In January 1940, the first batch of coal, 5 tons, was pulled out and sold to Xi 'an Guangren Hospital.

In March 1940, Tongguan Coal mine was divided into three mines according to the location of the mine, the first mine was at Wangyicun, the second mine was at Shilipu, and the third mine was on the ash slope.



Photo source: Archives of Tongchuan Mining Bureau: Enemy and false political archives, Photo file of Tongguan Coal Mine, file no. 087-1-02, 1939.

Fig. 1 Panorama of Tongguan Coal Mine

In 1942, the whole Line of Xiantong Railway was opened to traffic, and the train went directly to the mine, which provided great convenience for tongguan Coal mine to transport coal outside. In addition, tongguan Coal Mine continuously improved the production equipment and technology, tongguan Coal mine developed from the original three wellheads to twelve wellheads, and the coal output increased from 20,000 tons at the beginning of its establishment to more than 120,000 tons in 1945. The tongguan coal mine in deep boudoir seized an opportunity and developed vigorously.

2.3. The Influence of Tongguan coal mine

2.3.1. It solves the demand for coal in many ways

During the War of Resistance against Japan, the coal produced by Tongguan coal mine not only met the needs of its own mine, but also supplied the coal used by longhai Railway, government agencies, hospitals, schools and many businesses. Such as:

(1944) Zhongshan Town no. 5 Deputy Director zhen Guiting petitioned on 23rd this month for the issue of coal inventory inspection. Check zhongshan town wuli shop plate sentinel has been completed. All the personnel are burning food in the sentry, but the monthly amount of coal burned 1,000 jin, please send monthly.

(1944) Official letter No. 248 of the 86th Military Station Hospital of the Rear Service Department: In the middle of winter, the weather was cold, and the sick and wounded room of the hospital was checked. The stove was not enough to keep out the cold, so please donate 1,500 kilograms of lump coal and 3,000 kilograms of mixed coal to the wounded soldiers.

(1944) "This semester in the county middle school, the poor students accounted for nearly 200, the kitchen service tea is divided into three places, the monthly demand for 6,000 jin of coal, unable to buy, please feel sorry for the poor students to the nearest coal mine donation.

Xiking city in 1943, the very period commercial trade council coal purchase and delivery place, together with officer of coal, in accordance with the requirements necessities for commercial trade council to handle the very period coal bought transport way "together, the group mining for coal purchase shipped together, invited Zhang Zizhen is director of Zhang Jingji vice director of office address at 7 guanque tower street.



Photo source: Archives of Tongchuan Mining Bureau: Enemy and false political archives, Tongguan Coal Mine Transportation and Sales Unit, File no. 087-1-60-00011, "Coal ordering by trade association", 1944.

Figure 2 Coal receipt seal of coal Joint purchase and Transportation Department of Xijing Coal Commercial Trade Association in emergency period

In December 1943, xi 'an Coal Commercial Trade Association sent a letter saying that it had received 2,000 tons of coal previously sent by the miner, which had been distributed to its members and resold to the public. Currently 1,400 tons are needed. According to its demand, the miner will sell 900 tons of coal to Plant 2, 150 tons of coal to plant 3 and 350 tons of block carbon to plant 3. The association also implored the miners to distribute 2,000 tons of coal a month for distribution and sales.

After the outbreak of the War of Resistance against Japanese aggression, letters of demand for coal transport were sent to Tongguan Coal Mine continuously, which stimulated the mining of Tongguan coal mine, thus solving the employment problem of foreign personnel and local people, and gradually improving the energy status of Tongguan coal mine in the rear area.

2.3.2. Work for the public good

Tongguan Coal Mine not only supplied coal, but also continuously provided financial support for local education, and assumed the social responsibility as the only government-run coal mine at that time. Such as:

Jun long batch of pay WangYi Village first zhongshan yong please monthly public school for auxiliary expenses, and education, it immediately with considerable inviting the principal measure to come to talk, according to the cloud WangYi Village zhongshan primary school also is a government primary school, courses and ordinary primary school are equal, and it also adult literacy people work, expenses in addition to the county party sent to more than 60 yuan a month, on the occasion of The Times the price rise, The

actual monthly expenditure is about \$120, but the school is different from baozhen primary school, so it is not noted in the nearby villages.

Check what the principal said section, after investigation, it is true, and the mining plant school has not yet been established, about more than 10 employees' children are studying in the school, for the mine is not related to the plan to support the school by 50 yuan a month, and the school is required to quickly handle the public literacy night school, so that the miners go to study.

Petition for secondary schools to maintain about education, I this buy the ash heap slope original state primary school, all the school funds, except by public assist a few money, its limits, to the parents of the students and the ash heap slope carbon nest, since 28 years the ash heap slope carbon nest into public sector, each student's home and most of the poor, the school funds often panic, faculty meals are often a problem, With the recent upsurge in everything, students' homes are feeling more and more difficult to maintain. Mr. Jun is enthusiastic about education and would like to thank several students of your mine... To grant the school a monthly allowance of a number of dollars to support and maintain the status quo, it is a virtue.

2.3.3. Contribute to the war of Resistance

Tongguan coal mine also donated money and materials to support the Anti-Japanese War, contributing to the victory of the war. November 11, 1941, donated 300 yuan for the soldiers in the front line of the War of Resistance against Japan.

During the War of Resistance against Japanese Aggression, in order to form the atmosphere of everyone happy and saving and advocating thrift, to balance prices and meet wartime needs at any time, in 1940, the Ministry of Economic Affairs of the National government carried out the "saving for the founding of the People's Republic of China" throughout the country, to attract idle funds by mobilizing the party, government, army, agriculture, industry, business and all walks of life to realize the purpose of the founding of the People's Republic of China. In 1942, the mine side responded to the official mining area "Shaanxi branch with the official branch" call, completed the annual allocation of 77,500 yuan of savings.

On February 28, 1944, Tongguan Coal mine donated 54,000 yuan to the Organization Department of the Central Executive Committee of the Kuomintang, and the Organization Department handed over all the 200,000 yuan received to the General Association of China Aviation Construction Association. On June 16, tongguan coal mine was ordered to turn in "200 pairs of cloth shoes, 200 towels, 50 dozen of soap, 100 jin of pickles, and medicine, etc., costing 50,000 yuan." To comfort the Kuomintang Joint Air Force; On August 11, tongguan coal mine and send national money 20,000 yuan, comfort the Kuomintang Hengyang anti-japanese soldiers. On December 9, he sent another 30,000 yuan to the American air force who fought against Japan in China.

3. Conclusion

To sum up, the machinery and equipment of Tongguan coal mine, which was developed due to the Anti-Japanese War, were basically introduced from abroad, and most of the technical personnel were from other provinces. The productive forces exist and develop under certain productive relations, and the internal cause is the basis for the change and development of things. Throughout the wartime development of tongguan mining areas, only the government-run Tongguan coal mine was more advanced, taking the lead in Shaanxi and northwest China. During the War of Resistance against Japan, the vigorous development of Tongguan coal mine made an outstanding contribution to the war of Resistance against Japan. It not only provided coal for the war, guaranteed the operation of the railway, and militarily supported the war of resistance against Japan, but also promoted the development of Tongguan County, settled a large number of displaced people from Henan, Shandong, Jiangsu and other places, and stabilized the social order.

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