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1. Whereas South Manchuria, extending approximately to the 44th parallel, was primarily explored for gold by the Japanese, especially by the South Manchuria Railroad, North Manchuria was explored primarily by the Russians, especially by the Chinese Eastern Railroad. In South Manchuria, gold mining is many centuries old. All the best deposits of alluvial gold had been exhausted and only deposits of gold ore remained relatively untouched. On the other hand, in North Manchuria numerous deposits of alluvial gold remained untouched and the region as a whole had not been thoroughly explored for gold. Therefore, the Japanese, with the founding of Manchoukuo, concentrated their gold mining activities in North Manchuria, particularly on the slopes of the Great Hsingan and Little Hsingan mountain ranges.

2. The Manchuria Gold Mining Company, which controlled all gold mining activity in Manchoukuo, formulated a five year plan, 1937-1941. It provided for an 825% increase in gold production, from a value of 10,024,000 yen in 1936 to 82,701,000 yen--equivalent to a production of about 30,000 kilograms---in 1941. The Company, in 1938, placed an order for the construction of 20 gold dredgers in Japan, for use in large scale exploitation of North Manchurian gold deposits. Two dredgers, previously ordered, had just been completed. Of the 20 dredgers, four were to be completed by 1939's end. 50X1-HUM

3. The five year plan for gold provided for a certain percentage of the total output in 1941 to come from each of three main regions

(a) The Heiho Gold District, which includes the regions of the Moho, Humaerho, and Fabelaho Rivers, was to provide approximately 50% of the total gold production of Manchuria. As of 1935, the Japanese were exploiting this district on a large scale;

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- (b) The Chiamussu Gold District, which includes the regions along the Wutumho River southwest of the town of Lopei and along the Wangmaho River southeast of the provincial center of Chiamussu, was to provide about 33% of total gold production. This district was explored by the Japanese beginning in 1935; and
- (c) Chientao Province was to furnish the remaining 17% of gold production. In this area, old deposits of alluvial gold were worked in the regions of Tumentzu, along the tributaries of the Hunchunho River, and along the tributaries of the Tumen river.

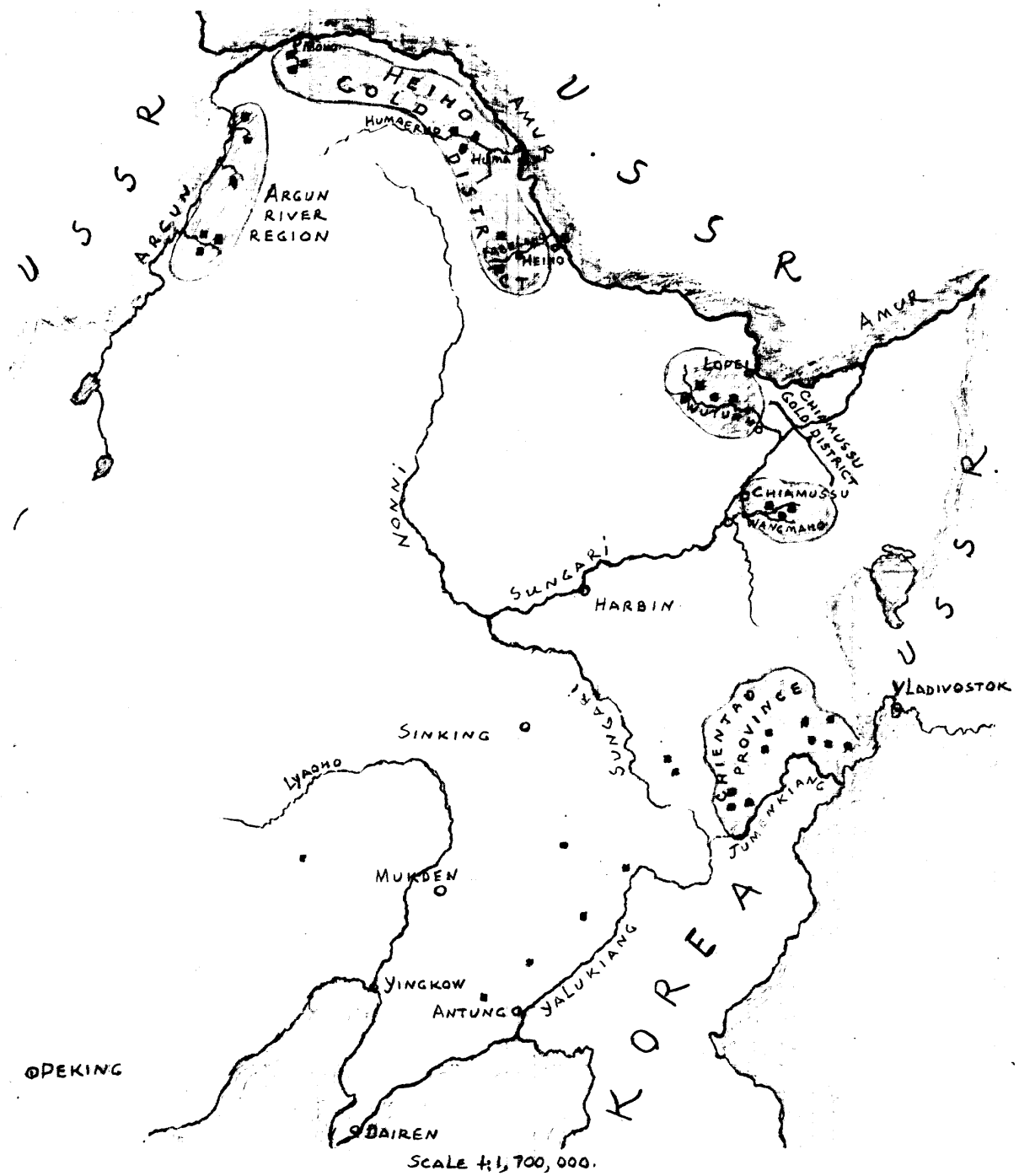
Other old deposits were worked in the late 1930s in other areas of the Eastern Mountain Region--Antung province and the eastern portions of the provinces of Mukden and Kirin. The Japanese also explored extensively for gold in Jehol province and believed that rich deposits were available there.

4. With the end of World War II, all mines under the Manchuria Gold Mining Company ceased production. The Soviets, in addition to the equipment of industrial plants in the area, must have appropriated Manchurian mining equipment, as gold mines in the Soviet Far East badly needed such equipment. It also seems reasonable to assume that once the USSR achieved control of China through the Communists, that working of alluvial gold deposits in North Manchuria has been resumed. The figures given above should serve as a useful guide to the rate of gold production to be expected from that area. Work most likely is going forward along the Argun River - the Kellari, Bystraya, and Chuerhgan deposits, the Amur River - the Moho, Jeltuga, Humaerho, and Fabelaho deposits, and in the Chiamussu district. All these deposits are near the Amur River, have good communications with the USSR, and were previously explored and at times worked by Russians. Gold mines in these regions now may have had some of their equipment returned by the USSR, or have been provided with new equipment built in Soviet plants at Krasnoyarsk and Irkutsk.
5. Further information on the subject can be found in the following works:
- (a) Gold Mining in Russia, E.A. Nasonoff, Shanghai 1944. Published by Nasonoff, in Russian
- (b) Some Reports About Gold Mining in Manchuria, 1930-34, Chinese Eastern Railroad (CERR). In Russian.
- (c) "Lectures of V.I. Sourine in the Economics of Russia and the Economics of the Far East", given at the Russian Commercial Institute in Shanghai, 1942-46.
- (d) Economic Atlas of North Manchuria, CERR, Harbin, 1930. In Russian.
- (e) Useful Minerals in North Manchuria, E.E. Anert, Harbin, 1928. Published by the Society for the Study of the Manchurian Krai, in Russian.
- (f) Mineral Products and Resources of the Far East, B.P. Torgashoff, CERR, 1927. In Russian and English editions.
- (g) Japan-Manchoukuo Year Book, 1939, Tokyo. In English.
- (h) Japan-Manchoukuo Year Book, 1941, Tokyo. In English.

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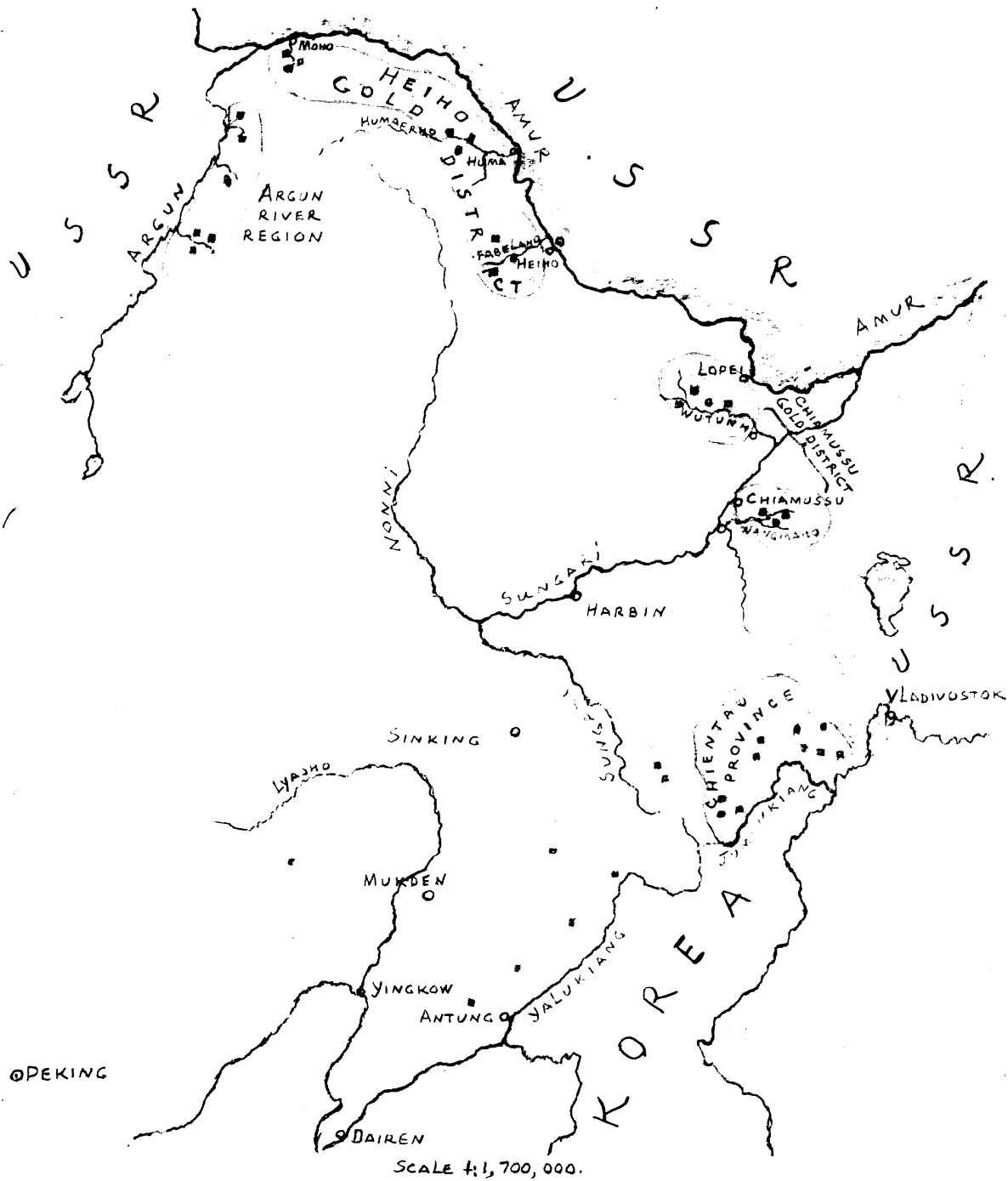
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SKETCH
OF MOST IMPORTANT DEPOSITS OF ALLUVIAL GOLD
IN MANCHURIA.
1941



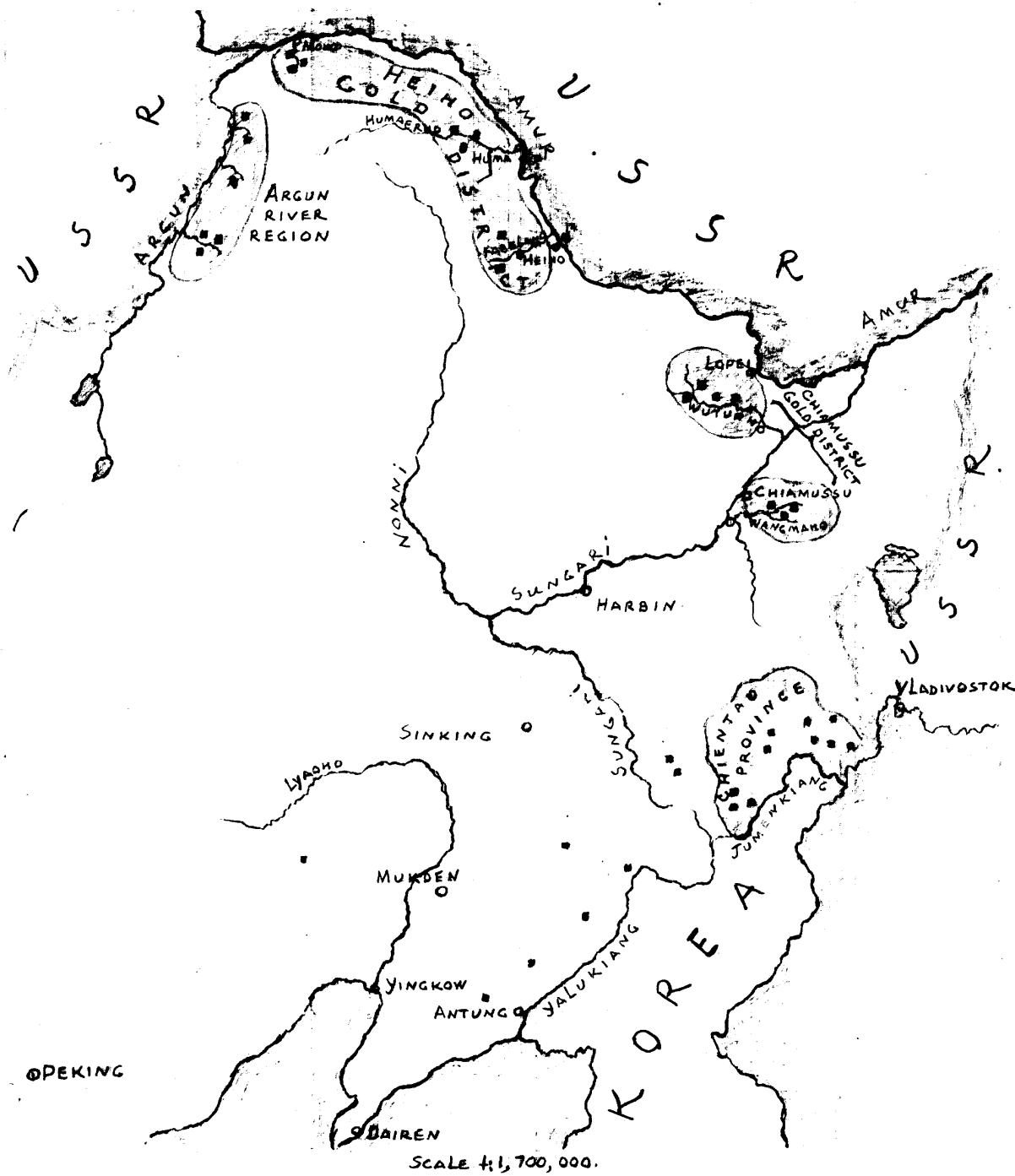
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