

CLASSIFICATION SECRET

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

COUNTRY East Germany

SUBJECT Coal Shortage at Zeiss, Jena

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SOURCE 25X1X [REDACTED]

1. Because of the coal shortage prevailing in the Jena area, the plant management of VEB Optik Carl Zeiss Jena issued an emergency directive in the first days of February 1954 stipulating drastic cuts in the consumption of electric power and heat throughout the plant.
2. No electric light and only a minimum of heat is to be used in the plant offices. Employees received instructions not to switch on the light in their offices in the early morning and late evening hours but to perform tasks such as the cleaning and rearranging of files which can be carried out under poor light conditions.
3. Many secondary machines throughout the Zeiss plant are not to be used during this emergency period, and workers affected were instructed to use this opportunity to repair, clean and do general maintenance work on them. As most Zeiss workers normally take great pride in the upkeep of their machines, the "repair and clean" part of the plant directive was interpreted as a purely "make work" arrangement by many foremen and workers.
4. This plant directive is to be observed until further notice.

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