

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY **East Germany**

REPORT

SUBJECT **VEB Carl Zeiss, Jena: Sale of Electron Microscope**

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1. The Institute for Animal Disease Research on the Island of Riems has again changed its order for an electron microscope.¹ The director of the institute, Professor Roehrer,² had originally placed an order for an electron microscope [redacted] but he received orders to cancel it and place an order for a similar instrument with VEB Carl Zeiss, Jena, at a sales price of 110,000 DME, which includes a specially ordered high-vacuum field accessory. In September 1955, Professor Roehrer went to Jena to have this Zeiss electron microscope demonstrated to him. The demonstration was carried out under the supervision of Dr. Ernst Guyenot, a Zeiss specialist in electron microscopy. However, the demonstration was rather unsatisfactory to Professor Roehrer, who felt that on the basis of the demonstration he would prefer to acquire the [redacted] instrument for his institute. His main objection to the Zeiss instrument was the fact that the microscopic picture moved too much during observation. It is felt that perhaps this unfavorable impression was caused by inept demonstration rather than by a basic defect in the instrument itself. Another Zeiss demonstrator for electron microscopes is Hahn (fnu), but he was not available for this demonstration.

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2. It is understood that Professor Roehrer, on the basis of his findings, later convinced his superiors at the German Academy for Agricultural Sciences, or even at the ministry level, that the [redacted] instrument was needed, and he was therefore authorized to reverse the previous order and reorder the electron microscope [redacted]

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3. The East German Ministry for Machine Construction advised VEB Carl Zeiss, Jena, that from the 1956 production one electron microscope would have to be made available to the Greifswald University, presumably for the new department of military medicine. It is not quite certain yet whether this is to be a purchase order or to take the form of a gift. Kresse (fnu) of the Ministry reportedly gave this order.

1. [redacted]

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2. [redacted] Comment: Dr. Heinz Roehrer.

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