

SECURITY INFORMATION
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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REPORT

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COUNTRY USSR (Voronezh Oblast)

CONFIDENTIAL

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SUBJECT Aircraft Plant No. 18

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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1. Location :

Last of the Voronezh River, near Voronezh (39°16'E/51°39'N), bordering on a factory airfield to the north.

2. Installations :

One large workshop was in operation (see Annex).

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3. Production :

The production had not started and its beginning date was not known.

[redacted] the plant was to be a complete aircraft plant. [redacted] possible that after the assembly of machines to be set up in the empty workshops was completed the production of aircraft parts started. This was inferred from the great speed with which the machinery was assembled. The time used for this work was out of proportion to the time required for the reconstruction of the destroyed workshops.

4. Aircraft observed at the factory field :

The aircraft were fitted with two in-line engines and three-bladed propellers. They were low-wing monoplanes with a span of about 14 meters and a length of about 10 to 12 meters. The landing gear retracted rearward immediately after the take-off. Full-view

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nose cockpit, a rear gunner's station was mounted on top of the fuselage one-third the distance from the nose, the wings were similar to those of the PE 53, the shape and the dimensions of the fuselage bore a great resemblance to the Heinkel 111. A belly-turret about 3 meters long was fitted between the wings. The roar of engines, which indicated a high number of revolutions, was similar to that produced by the He-109. Take-off speed about 200 km; speeds of up to 400 km were attained; landing speed about 150 km. The plane gained height rapidly. Dive practices were held from altitudes of about 4,000 meters; the aircraft pulled out at altitudes of 500 to 700 meters.

5. Plant management and work force :

The Soviet managing director wore civilian clothes with air force decorations. Several times a week source saw commissions of air force officers. About 3,000 Soviets were employed, including 40 percent women; 400 members of the Komsomol and 300 GIs also worked in the plant. One shift was worked.

6. Observed aircraft :

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[redacted] take-offs of a single-engine 50X1-HUM fighter plane. The blunt fuselage and the plexiglass cockpit with a straight rear side were particularly noted. From the shape of the cockpit [redacted] the craft had a crew of two. The landing gear retracted outward into the wings. A rigid weapon was observed on both sides of the fuselage; [redacted] The plane was painted a lusterless brown [redacted]

[redacted] the craft was somewhat smaller than the PE-190 [redacted] it was very fast and maneuverable. 50X1-HUM
The engine produced a high-pitched singing tone. After the take-off, these planes would make a steep climb, fly some circles at an altitude of about 300 meters, and then land. From this it was inferred that new aircraft were being tested. Other types were never seen at the field. 50X1-HUM

7. Three or four hangars, in which single-engine aircraft similar to the He-109 were being assembled, were on the southern side of the airfield. The individual parts were delivered.

a. Aircraft armament : One cannon, caliber unknown, four machine guns in front, one machine gun fitted in tail turret. The aircraft were assembled, flight tested, and their armament adjusted. Three or four aircraft were adjusted every week. The field had a diagonal runway. 50X1-HUM

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Annex : Airframe Plant No. 13 in Voronezh.

Legend to Annex.

1 through 4 Block of Workshops.

1 Workshop, 150 x 30 meters, with 120 to 150 lathes, boring, grinding and milling machines in addition to special machines and gear shapers.

2 Workshop, 150 x 30 meters, with 10 turret lathes, 10 automatic machines, 10 precision lathes, about 10 boring and milling machines and 5 special machines for the grinding of cutting and boring tools. 50X1-HUM

3 Workshop, 450 x 120 meters, no details available.

The number of machines was estimated at about 300. About 500 line derivations were checked. In December 1945, 50 connection cables had to be deactivated because they were not required for the time being. Four electric annealing furnaces were set up on the eastern wall of the workshop. Measuring instruments, material testing machines and special milling and grinding machines were also seen. The kitchen and post exchange were at the northern side of the workshop. On its southern side was a room with some precision milling machines; eight precision special grinding machines were seen in a section partitioned off on the eastern side. 50X1-HUM

4 Workshop, 450 x 130 meters, which was being equipped with planing benches, lathes and electric welding equipment. About 150 electric motors from 0.5 to 12 HP were installed.

5 The destroyed workshop, 600 x 300 meters, was being cleared away.

6 Workshop, 300 x 100 meters, with a roof supported by 10 concrete pillars. It housed the plumber shop (light metal) and was equipped with about five electric shearing machines and punching machines

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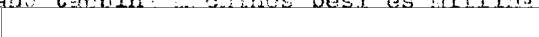
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7 Electric circle-cutters and tanning machines besides milling machines were installed. 



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3 The heavily damaged workshop was cleared away.

9 Ruins.

10 Destroyed workshop

11 water pump

12 Administration

All the machine tools in workshops 2,3 and 9 were individually driven by electric motors.

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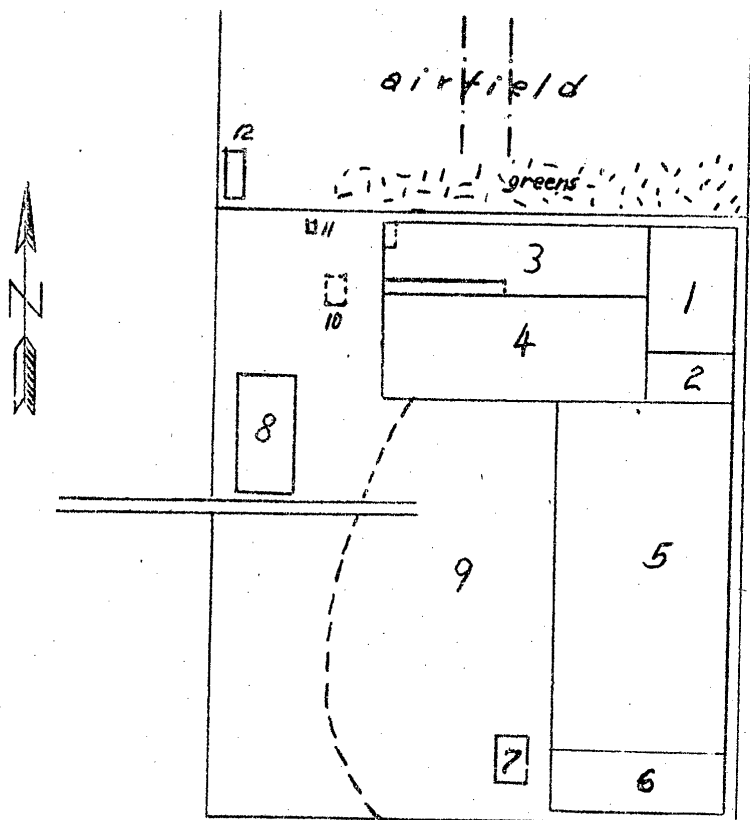
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Attachment

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