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CLASSIFICATION CONFIDENTIAL SECRET SECURITY INFORMATION

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT NO. [redacted]

CD NO.

COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

DATE DISTR. 24 March 1952

SUBJECT Wismut AG and Miscellaneous Economic Data

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

[redacted]

1. At the beginning of December 1951 new hydraulic presses were delivered to the BMW-Werke in Eisenach. These presses are to be used in the manufacture of steel larding mats for Soviet airfields in Germany. The mats are approximately 3 x 4 meters in size. By 1 February 1952, 35,000 of these mats are to be produced.

2. BMW Eisenach has a backlog of 700 partially finished vehicles. Shortages of precision parts, especially carburetors, have caused bottlenecks in vehicle production at this plant.

3. The former Thiel-Werke in Seebach near Ruhla, destroyed during the war, are to be rebuilt and operated as a subsidiary of Zeiss Jena. The deadline for the completion of the reconstruction project is 1 May 1952. Three thousand laborers are reportedly at work at the project.

4. In Gera numerous streets were evacuated in order to house the administration of Wismut AG, its clerical staff and workers. It is reported that the main administration of Wismut is to be transferred to Weida. Living space for 500 persons is required in Weida and in preparation for the move, two homes for the aged are being evacuated.

5. On 17 or 18 January 1952 the village of Katzendorf was hurriedly evacuated. After the last inhabitant had been cleared out, the village was dynamited. Wismut-Bergbau is reported to be planning the start of operations in this area.

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