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INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Poland/East Germany'

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SUBJECT Polish Attempts to Overcome Fuel Shortage

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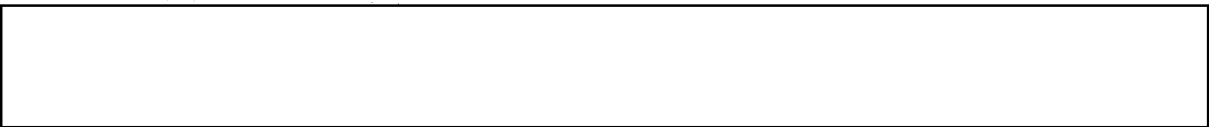
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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO. 25X1



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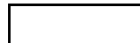
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1. [] a meeting took place between representatives of ZAPT and two members of the Polish Trade Mission in Berlin; the purpose was to discuss technical cooperation between the DDR and Poland and, in particular, to discuss the technological aid which East Germany could render Poland in the field of coal processing.
2. In 1951, Poland had asked ZAPT to procure plans for a coal washing plant. ZAPT was also requested to provide blueprints for a coke separation installation and a coal sorting plant. All three installations were to be in Poland. During the meeting on 6 February, Director (fnu) Burstyn and Dr. (fnu) Gutniak, the Polish representatives, withdrew these requests since ZAPT had been unable to comply with them.
3. The main point discussed at the meeting was the shortage of fuel in Poland. Attempts to relieve the shortage are following two lines:
 - a) gasoline production from either the hydrogenation or distillation of distillation tar from lignite, or
 - b) production of tar for hydrogenation by oxygen pressure distillation (Sauerstoffdruckvergasung) of coal (Steinkohle), according to the Lurgi process.
4. ZAPT has been of some help to Poland. The Projektlerungs- und Konstruktionsbüro, affiliated with Hauptverwaltung Kohle, in Berlin-Weissensee provided the Poles with a rough blueprint (Vorprojekt) for a briquette and a distillation plant which are to be built in Konin, Poland. Lignite deposits in the region are to be open pit mined; the lignite is to be processed into briquettes and distilled into tar and benzene in the two proposed plants. A briquette and a distillation plant are also to be built in Rogozno, Poland, where there are also lignite deposits. In the February meeting, ZAPT assumed responsibility for providing the complete plans for the plants; construction at both sites is to be finished by 1955.

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5. ZAPT has also undertaken to provide plans for an oxygen pressure distillation plant, to be erected at an unspecified place in Upper Silesia. In the February meeting, the Poles requested that 100 tons of coal from Poland be distilled in the Hirschfelde pressure distillation plant in order to determine whether the Hirschfelde process could successfully be applied to Polish coal. The test was run from 20 to 30 April 1952 with non-caking coal from Upper Silesia. It was stated afterwards that one ton of such coal yields 800 to 900 cubic meters of gas (Stadtgas) with a calorific value of 4,300 Kcal per cubic meter, as well as light oil and tar.
6. In the session of 6 February, it was decided that a Polish-German meeting of experts would convene in the summer of 1952 to decide whether the Konin and Raszno (sic) lignites should be processed by hydrogenation or distillation. It was also decided that a delegation of German experts would visit Poland in the summer of 1952 to study the Polish coal and fuel situation on the spot.

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1.  Comment: Zentralamt fuer Forschung und Technik.

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