

FEB 1952 51-4AA

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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SECURITY INFORMATION

INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT NO. [redacted]

CD NO.

COUNTRY East Germany/China

DATE DISTR. 13 February 1953

SUBJECT Manufacture of A-1 Type Air Force Training Sets at Zeiss, Jena

NO. OF PAGES 2

DATE OF INFO. [redacted]

NO. OF ENCLS. (LISTED BELOW)

PLACE ACQUIRED [redacted]

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

25X1

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

1. [redacted] it was learned that the number of A-1 type air force training sets available at Wittstock and Zerbst airfields could not be determined, but that repair work was done on two sets in Zerbst and on one set in Wittstock.¹
2. During the first half of 1952, only repeat orders for individual parts of the A-1 sets were received. In meetings concerning delivery difficulties, it was learned that most of these orders asked for potentiometers. The first big order for spare parts was received in early August 1952. By 15 October 1952, the Zeiss Plant was to deliver a total of 200 spare parts. Shipments to China were directed through the Derutra to Magdeburg harbor.²
3. The Soviet military commission which was assigned to the Zeiss Plant was composed of five persons, namely D.S. Radmirov, D.E. Chmonin, B.T. Simakov, I.N. Ursulov, and S.I. Ivakov.³ Radmirov was chief of the mission. The commission was subordinate to an office in Moscow and was attached to the Zeiss Plant to control the production, the assembly, the materials of A-1 training sets, and to see that the deliveries were made on time. The commission was also to check and to test the completed A-1 sets. Of each series, at least one set had to pass a 1,000-hour test.⁴ Other instruments produced for the USSR were not checked by the commission.
4. The plant is working on an order of a series of 75 A-1 training sets. Difficulties with the materials delayed the deliveries. At the Directors' meeting on 25 August 1952, it was pointed out from the German and the Soviet side that the materials available were insufficient to meet the requirements of such highly sensitive instruments. [redacted] the bomb release gears, which had been ordered from the Dresden Zeiss Ikon Plant, were also parts required for A-1 sets which, as is known, are equipped with bomb sights.⁵ [redacted] that single parts were not only produced by Zeiss Ikon in Dresden, but reportedly also by a Zeiss branch plant in Sealfeld and by a plant in Schkeuditz.⁶ The assembly shop for A-1 sets in shop No. 3 of the South Plant behind Weimar-Gera Bahnhof is a restricted area and strictly guarded.

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5. In 1950 and 1951 the plant had an output of 200 A-1 type training sets. Eight sets were completed in 1952. The rated output for this year was 75 sets. It was requested that the remaining 67 units be completed by 31 December 1952. According to a new work order, the production of 135 A-1 sets is scheduled for 1953. Most delivery delays in 1952 were caused by the Russian work system which, in turn, was due to the many necessary repairs of previously delivered sets.

25X1 [] Comments:

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1. The information confirms the previous assumption that each fighter regiment is equipped with one A-1 training set. [] In Zerst, where two regiments are stationed, two sets were repaired, while one set was repaired in Wittstock where only one regiment is stationed.
2. A delivery of spare parts for the first series of 200 A-1 sets is possibly concerned. These spare parts might have become necessary after failures of particular units of this very sensitive set had shown up when the set was used.
3. I.N. Ursulov and S.I. Ivakov are reported for the first time.
4. A set of the 200 series had also been subjected to such a test.

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5. Available information does not substantiate information that the A-1 training device is equipped with either bomb sights or bomb release gears.

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6. This was also mentioned in a previous report. [] 25X1

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7. [] gave the total order of A-1's for 1952 as 79 sets.

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