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SECURITY INFORMATION

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FDD Abstract

German Democratic Republic

DATA ON PRODUCTION AND ORGANIZATION OF THE ZEISS PLANT IN JENA (2 pp; German; [redacted])

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This document consists of [redacted], containing the following information on the Zeiss Plant in Jena: 25X1A

At the beginning of August 1951, the Zeiss main plant in Jena employed 12,200 persons. At present, Zeiss also has production sections in Saalfeld, where 1,000 workers are employed, and Gera, with 800 workers. An extensive enlargement of the main plant is planned. In the next two years a part of the plant is to be transferred to Weimar, which will probably be a section intended exclusively for special-armorament production. Since this project is being handled with the greatest secrecy, detailed information is not available at present. The production section in Saalfeld produces special equipment exclusively for armorament purposes. It is said that this section is engaged in the production of instruments for U-boats, speedboats, and other types of coastal-defense vessels, as well as bombsights and special equipment for air-force purposes. All products for military uses are shipped out of the plant to an unknown consumer, and do not go through the sales departments of the plant.

The Zeiss Plant in Jena is divided into the following groups: A. Scientific-technical group: 1) Microscopy. 80 percent of the production is exported, four-fifths of which is sent to the Eastern Bloc countries. The optical quality and the mechanical quality, in terms of labor, of the products are about equal to that of prewar products, whereas the quality in terms of material is fair. Substitute materials are used because of the lack of nonferrous metals. Standard apparatuses are priced from 744 to 3,500 Deutsche marks. The value of goods exported each month varies between 330,000 - 500,000 Deutsche marks. 2) Optical measuring instruments. Products include photometers (Pulfrich photometers), Abbesch comparators (measuring instruments for comparisons of substances), and refractometers (analysis instruments for identification of fat content, etc.). 3) Precision-measuring instruments. Products include linear and thickness gauges and optical surface-measuring instruments (for the iron and iron-working industry).

B. Photo-Optics group: 1) Production of all types of photographic lenses. 2) Projection department; produces epidiascopes, diasscopes, motion-picture projectors (sound film), microfilming equipment (Dokumentaraufnahmegeraete), microfilm readers (Lesegeraete), and other projection equipment. 3) Optical section; produces all types of lenses. The work of this section is greatly hindered by the lack of special glass. The Schott Firm in Jena supplies glass for all optical products. 4) Ophthalmic department; produces ocular instruments and refraction measuring devices. 5) Telescopes. Products include binoculars of all types (from opera glasses to night telescopes), and are almost exclusively exported to the Eastern European countries, especially the stronger glasses. The section is not yet engaged in the production of scissors telescopes (Scherenglaeser).

There is also a third group which produces equipment for armorament purposes, as mentioned above. One of the sections in this group produces drawing-die diamonds.

Presumably, apparatuses with high-tension current and high-frequency apparatuses are being worked on in Saalfeld.

[The above is a full exploitation of the document.]

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1 April 1952

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