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Next 1 Page(s) In Document Denied

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SECURITY INFORMATION

German Democratic Republic

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MANUFACTURE OF SEAMLESS PIPE

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Seamless pipe, which is essential in the manufacture of heavy-duty steam boilers, steam locomotives, etc., is a bottleneck in the GDR. The construction of a tube rolling mill at the West Metallurgical Combine in Calbe/Saale has been postponed to the second half of the year 1952.

Meanwhile, the erection of tube rolling mills in Wildau and Brandenburg is being carried forward. Wildau will go into production within the month if the special machines arrive in time. At Wildau the Mannesmann process will be used.

In Brandenburg the operation will follow the Erhardt pressing method. Two extruding and drawing machines, necessary for the process, have been developed by the Hiles Works in Weissensee and are to be delivered by the end of June 1952. The manufacture of pipe for extreme pressures at Brandenburg will proceed as follows: hot square steel ingots are placed into a round form and a round mandrel is pressed into the ingot. In this way the square steel ingot is expanded to a round tube. Using a mandrel, this hot tube is then pressed and drawn by drawing dies through successively narrower openings. The tubes thus produced are smoothed and reamed in the rolling mill so that they can easily be removed from the mandrel.

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