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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

COUNTRY	Czechoslovakia	REPORT	
SUBJECT	Gustav Kliment Pipe Rolling Mills, Chomutov	DATE DISTR.	4 November 1953
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(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

1. The Gustav Kliment Pipe Rolling Mills, Chomutov, are located on the eastern edge of Chomutov and occupy an area of approximately two square kilometers.

2. The factory produces a variety of steel and iron pipe from 15 to 600 mm. in diameter, with both thick and thin walls, but it concentrates chiefly on the smaller sizes of from 15 to 40 mm. diameter with thick walls. Most of the pipe of larger diameter is insulated or rust-protected, suggesting that it is for drainage or pipeline use.

3. The daily production of pipe amounts to from 15 to 20 railroad cardloads. All finished products seem to be dispatched to the USSR, as the writing on the railroad cars is in Russian. All raw material is received as ingots (iron) or ore, by rail, also with markings in Russian on the cars.

4. Machinery in the factory includes all the well-known types, such as lathes, pipe rolling mills, stamping, straightening and profiling machines, etc. Most of the machines are old. When new machines do arrive, the factory has great difficulty in finding skilled workers capable of operating them. It frequently happens that valuable parts such as motors or pumps are removed for use with other machinery.

5. The manufacturing is done in five large halls, each measuring 100 by 260 meters. Each shop is responsible for the complete production of a particular size of tube, and each is separately guarded and can be entered only with a special pass. Workers in one shop cannot enter halls to which they are not assigned. A number of members of the plant militia are in each shop, employed as workmen, and they cannot be distinguished from the other workers, since they also wear working clothes.

6. Inspection of finished products is done by Soviet civilians who stamp the goods when accepted. In the course of production, testing only takes place sporadically, and the testing staff consists mainly of women. It is estimated that the average of rejections is approximately 25%, but runs as high as 40% in the case of small-profile pipe. This poor quality of products is

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caused by the acute shortage of qualified personnel and the poor maintenance of the machinery. The maintenance and repair staff have to work night and Sunday shifts in order just to keep the machinery in bare working order.

7. The total number of employees in the Chomutov factory is approximately 5,000; 40% of these are women and 15% of the total constitutes the administrative staff. Important officials of the plant are the following:

   a. Ladov (fnu), managing director.

   b. Partek (fnu), deputy director.

   c. Lederer (fnu) and Noveta or Novota (fnu), works engineers.

8. The managing director and his deputy appear to be political appointees, while Lederer, who is a Sudeten German, is a steel pipe expert. None of the senior officials can be distinguished from the workers, as they also wear working overalls.

9. The plant has its own railroad sidings and five or six locomotives are used for switching inside the factory. The plant also has a small emergency electric power plant of its own, but most of its requirements of water, gas, and electric power are supplied from outside.

10. On the northern edge of the factory, three large new shops are being built, to be used as assembly halls.