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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT

SUBJECT Administration for Industrial
Material (18th Main Administration)

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This is UNEVALUATED
Information.

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY, SEE REVERSE)

1. In early March 1955, the Central Department for Finances and Prices in the East German Ministry for Machine Construction was informed that a number of enterprises under the Ministry are to be transferred from the Main Administrations to which they have been subordinate so far and are to be placed under a new Administration for Industrial Material (Verwaltung fuer Industriebedarf). It was furthermore specified that the financial accounting of this administration would not be handled by the above-named Central Department, but independently of it. The first two enterprises indicated as having been affiliated with the Administration for Industrial Material, as the Central Department for Finances and Prices was informed on this occasion, are:

VEB Maschinenfabrik Schkeuditz, formerly under the MA for Chemical, Ceramic and Food Industries; and
VEB Astra in Karl-Marx-Stadt, formerly under the MA for Precision Mechanics and Optics.

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2. It is confidentially known among the employees of the Ministry that the new Administration for Industrial Material is a cover name for the former 18th Administration in Dessau, which has been reactivated in the recent past. It seems that no definite official name has as yet been given to the reactivated 18th Administration and that the designation "Administration for Industrial Material" is one of several cover names used in the Ministry. It is also known that the Ministry has rubber stamps which read "18. Hauptverwaltung Pirna" (18th MA, Pirna).

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