

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

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SUBJECT	VEB Carl Zeiss Jena, Fertigungsbetrieb, Dresden/Reick	DATE DISTR.	18 May 1955
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Information

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

1. VEB Carl Zeiss Jena, Fertigungsbetrieb Dresden-Reick is located in Dresden, Reick at Muegelnerstrasse 40. Before World War II, the plant was in armament production. Although dismantled in 1945, the plant was reactivated in 1946 with less than 50 employees. By 1947-48, the plant had approximately 120 employees; in 1949-50 approximately 175 employees. Its personnel strength as of February 1955 was approximately 630, of which approximately 70% was female. Of the 630 employees, 450 are in production work, 60 to 70 are supervisors, and approximately 75 are apprentices.
2. The plant now has a floor space of approximately 4,000 square meters with a frontage of 40 meters.
3. Hans Klessen was chief of the plant until February 1955. His deputy was Franz Naumann.

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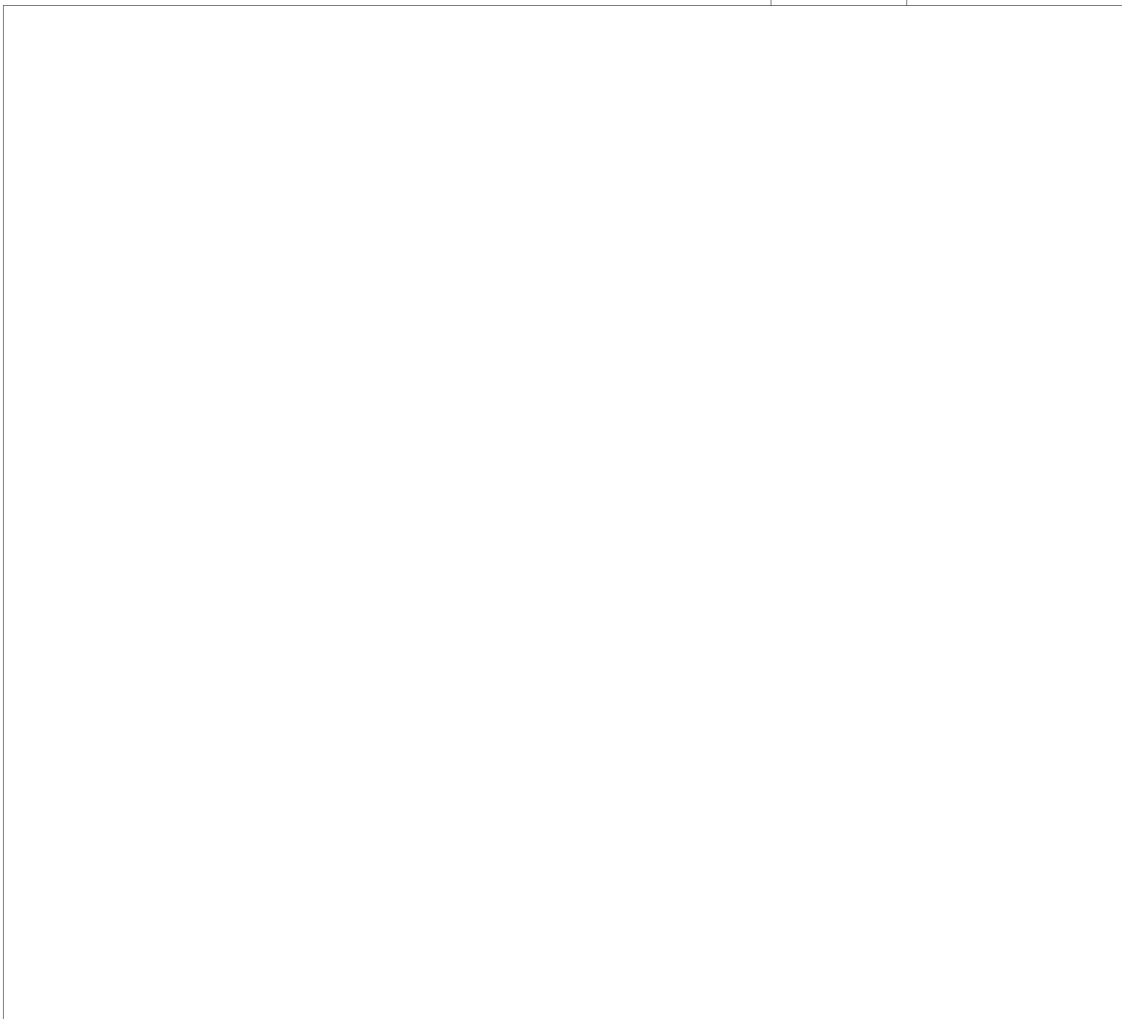
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(Note: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution by "#".)

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5. The Production Plan for 1954 was in the amount of 5,500,000 DME of which about 4,880,000 DME was produced. The main reason for its failure was not a shortage of raw materials at the plant, but the failure of delivery of the metal parts for production, e.g. the metal mounts for view finders. Earlier the plant suffered from a lack of optical glass, polishing and abrasive agents, a lack which no longer exists. 25X1
6. The following is a listing of production by type:
- a. Rangefinders: 300,000 units planned and completed.
- 75,000 for IHAGEE Kamerawerk A.G., Dresden
 - 30,000 for VEB Zeiss-Ikon, Dresden
 - 75,000 for VEB Kamerawerke, Niederseblitz-Dresden
 - 40,000 for VEB Bueromaschinenwerk Rheinmetall, Soemmerda
 - 80,000 for various small orders
- b. Color Filters: 75,000 planned, about 10,000 produced. Some 40,000 to 50,000 were left in stock because the metal mountings were not available. 25X1

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- c. Special Prisms: 60-70,000 planned, 35,000 produced, 16,000 delivered.
- d. Rangefinder Lenses for the IHAGEE Achromaten: Fulfilled.
- e. A three-lens view finder, called "Tritare" and "Novenare": 30,000 planned for 6 x 9 cm. Tritare cameras of which only 17,000 were produced because of a lack of metal parts. 12,000 were planned for the 24 x 36 mm cameras, of which only 1,000 were produced because of low demand.
- f. Special Production for institutes, universities, etc.
- 1) Electric photocells for motion picture projectors.
 - 2) Electron vacuum tubes for Elektronmvervielfacher (electron multiplier)
 - 3) Counting tubes for Geiger-Mueller radioactivity counters.

(Most of the above items were not produced in series but were only manufactured after special orders for 10 or 20 items of various sizes had been received.

7. The next higher echelon to the Dresden-Reick plant is the Betriebsleitung Optik, Jena. Its chief is Werner Schubert, nicknamed "Schwarzer Schubert". The Dresden-Reick factory was an exception to other Zeiss branch plants. It was independent to a large degree and was supposed to become completely independent, but these plans have subsequently been cancelled. 25X1
8. On occasions, Prof. Paul Goerlich, the Chief Scientific Director (HWL) of VEB Carl Zeiss Jena would have the Dresden-Reick plant build certain parts for experimental instruments and devices that his various Jena laboratories were working on. Goerlich would never quite explain what the end use of these instruments and devices were but would urge Master Mechanic Schoettner (fnu) to exercise particular care in their manufacture. Within the last year, these special orders comprised only photo-electric cells and a special sort of thermo-element. These thermo-elements were destined as parts for a new device which is extremely important and which would cost several 100,000 DME; Most other parts that Goerlich needed for his research and development work would be built in Jena or some of the other Zeiss installations, but the order for the photo-electric cells and the thermo-elements was given to the Dresden-Reick plant because of the delicacy of the work and because Goerlich remembered Schoettner as a very capable person who had unusual skill in these processes. 25X1
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