

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

This material contains information affecting the National Defense of the United States within the meaning of the Espionage Laws, Title 18, U.S.C. Secs. 793 and 794, the transmission or revelation of which in any manner to an unauthorized person is prohibited by law.

S-E-C-R-E-T

	[Redacted]		25X1
COUNTRY	East Germany	REPORT [Redacted]	25X1
SUBJECT	Supply of Domestic and Imported Iron Ore for East German Industry	DATE DISTR. 27 May 1955	25X1
		NO. OF PAGES 2	
DATE OF INFO.	[Redacted]	REQUIREMENT [Redacted]	25X1
PLACE ACQUIRED	[Redacted]	REFERENCES	25X1
DATE ACQUIRED	[Redacted]	This is UNEVALUATED Information	

SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

1. General

- a. During 1954, the supply of raw materials for the iron industry was inadequate. It originally had been planned to increase this supply, but after 1953, priority in the country's economy was given to the production of consumer goods. As a consequence, East Germany will be forced to depend on imports to an even greater extent than during the period of the previous Five Year Plan.
- b. Stocks of iron ore and coke in particular are insufficient and are being exhausted. The present production quotas can only be reached by increased imports, mainly from the Satellite Countries.

2. Supplies to iron plants

- a. It is possible to supply from East German sources only a bare 60% of iron ore to VEB Eisenhuettenkombinat J. W. Stalin, Stalinstadt (Oder); VEB Maxhuetten, Unterwellenborn; and VEB Eisenwerk West, Calbe/Saale. The percentage thus supplied in 1953 was 59% and in 1954 - 60%. The Stalinstadt plant, for instance, is almost entirely supplied from imported ores, which [Redacted] can only be used after concentration. On the other hand, VEB Maxhuetten Unterwellenborn and VEB Eisenwerk West obtain most of their iron ore from East German mines.
- b. Since the end of 1950, the considerable stocks of pit heap ore, which then amounted to about 1,000,000 tons, have been exhausted.

3. Reserves

- a. Inadequacy of technical installations and the necessity of concentrating the ore are putting a brake on an increase of output of iron ores, even when the relatively considerable chamoisite ores in Thuringia are taken into consideration.

S-E-C-R-E-T

[Redacted]

STATE	X	ARMY	X	NAVY	X	AIR	X	FBI		AEC		ORR	By X	
-------	---	------	---	------	---	-----	---	-----	--	-----	--	-----	------	--

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

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

S-E-C-R-E-T

- 2 -

25X1

- b. In 1952, total reserves in East Germany were estimated by the State Geological Commission to be from 180,000,000 to 240,000,000 tons, but this is now considered to be too high a figure. The amount is probably 80,000,000 to 120,000,000 tons. In 1936, the estimate was about 85,000,000 tons.

4. Location of ore deposits, type of ore, and disposal

- a. Schmiedefeld (near Saalfeld); iron silica clay with less than 30% Fe content; delivers to Maxhuetten.
- b. Wittmannsgereuth (near Saalfeld); iron ore with an average of 30% Fe content; sent by cable railway to Unterwellenborn; delivers to Maxhuetten.
- c. Kamsdorf (near Saalfeld); carboniferous iron ore and limestone containing iron; deliveries before 1953 to Stalinstadt, after that to Maxhuetten.
- N.B. Schmiedefeld, Wittmannsgereuth, and Kamsdorf constitute the main sources of supplies of iron ore.
- d. Schleiz (Thuringia); brown iron stone with less than 15% Fe content; deliveries partly to Maxhuetten and partly to Eisenwerk West.
- e. Buechenberg and Braunesumpf; iron ores with about 1% sulfur content, 1% phosphorus; delivered to Eisenwerk West.
- f. Tangerhuetten; iron ore 30-40% Fe content which is raised about 50% by concentration.
- g. Helmstedt and Halberstadt areas; dispersed deposits of Lias formation ores (offshoots of the so-called "Salzgitter" ores); open cast mining.
- h. Voelpke (1 km. south of Bardeleben); open cast mining.
- i. Ueplingen (3 km. south of Voelpke); acid iron sandstone.
- j. Sommereschenburg; iron ores with approximately 25% Fe content and traces of MgO.
- k. Ohrleben (20 km. northwest of Oschersleben). A deposit of approximately 2,000,000 tons of workable self fluxing ores with approximately 20% SiO₂ and 25% CaO have been discovered. After some delay, the deposits began to be worked during the first half of 1954.
- l. Schwarzenberg (Erzgebirge), Rottleberode, and Gottesgabe (Harz). Prospecting operations have been suspended because it does not appear to be worth while to work the seams. However, because of the urgency of obtaining new ores, new drillings are to be made at these places.

5. Planning

All current geological exploration, with the exception of test drillings already underway in different parts of East Germany, was suspended with the introduction of the New Course. It is not known whether there will be a return to former plans in view of the new tasks to be accomplished and the necessity of increased production. The planned target for iron ore, and in particular that for 1955, has frequently been changed. The Five Year Plan envisaged an output of 3,650,000 tons for 1955, but this has been reduced to 2,120,000 tons. This figure should be reached.

S-E-C-R-E-T

25X1