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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

The following general trends have recently been noticed in connection with the railroads in the Russian Zone of Germany and Poland:

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1. [] only S-10 locomotives would henceforth be used for passenger services. The fire boxes on these locomotives have not suffered to any great extent, largely because they have been fired with hard coal. The other locomotives, which have, up to the present, been used for passenger trains, have had to be withdrawn from service because of the danger of explosions; this is due to the extremely high wear on the fire box walls resulting from the use of lignite. Spare parts for the locomotives in service will be taken from those which have been withdrawn. New spare parts are no longer available in the Eastern Zone.
2. Recently a marked decrease in freight traffic has been noticeable, because of the lack of freight loads, including potatoes and other agricultural products. Industry in general has little to forward because of a lack of raw materials required for production purposes. Freight traffic, therefore, consists mainly of coal and timber loads.
3. The lack of freight cars for transit traffic is becoming more and more noticeable. In recent months it has been found impossible to make cars available at specified dates to cover the requirements of the occupying forces and for the transport of reparations. A special order has recently been promulgated, therefore, stating that, as regards such cars, the requirements of the occupying forces must have priority and that these cars may not be used for internal German transport purpose.
4. Transit traffic through Poland is now under strong pressure from partisans; this is particularly the case on the line Frankfurt/Oder-Posen-Brest-Litovsk, where trains have been under fire. The Railroad Administration is, therefore, diverting more trains in the direction of the harbor towns of Wismar and Rostock. However, since there is insufficient dock space in these towns for ships, trains cannot be unloaded rapidly and there is much congestion.

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