

**CONFIDENTIAL**

SUBJECT Goerz Optics Plant and Subsidiaries  
in Slovakia

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1. This plant was established in Bratislava (P49/K99) some years ago by the Viennese firm of Goerz, and became thereby the first optics factory in Czechoslovakia. The main factory in Vienna had hoped by establishing this branch to secure priority orders from the National Defense Ministry. Goerz in Bratislava remains the only optics plant in Slovakia, and in accordance with Slovak demands in 1948 that their factories be independent of Bohemian and Moravian management, the Communist government allowed Goerz independence from Meopta. Goerz, however, is a very small plant, and is able to stave off absorption by Meopta, which is to control all Bohemian optics production (Srb & Stys in Prague, Optikotechna in Prerov (P50/003), Kolar in Trnovany (N51/F53), and several other small factories), only by having a management staff which is superior even to that of Meopta itself. The question of whether Goerz or Meopta will eventually develop Slovakian optics is, however, still an open one.
2. The Goerz plant in Bratislava, which employs 500 workers at present, is situated in the center of the city near the railroad station. Since it is surrounded by houses on about 12,000 sq. meters of land, the possibilities of enlarging the plant are extremely limited. It is reported, however, that it will move into the center of Slovakia, south of Zvolen (Q49/C74). Until this is accomplished, its military significance will be slight.
3. Although the lens calculating office, where the proper type of lenses, etc. is determined before a project goes into production, is poorly provided with personnel, the factory equipment is in very good shape. The machines for grinding the lenses have about 60 spindles and the same number of polishing spindles. There are about 250 machines involved in the mechanical production, which is of the standard type found in a small optics and fine mechanics factory. The developmental activities of the Goerz plant are very intensive as the result of the efforts of Ing. Palivec, the former director of Optikotechna in Prerov, who is a very able technician and organizer.\* He is not a Communist.

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4. The production program consists of field glasses, compasses, magnifying glasses, opera glasses, monocular hand microscopes of 100 power which can easily be converted to six-power telescopes by the addition of another lens, telemeters, scientific instruments and periscopes. Among the chief items in the program are both professional and amateur moving picture projectors which were designed by Ing. Dostal and Ing. Rysan, who owned a plant in Prague which was purchased instead of being confiscated in 1947. Moving picture apparatus, such as swivel tripods which permit continuous movement of the camera and auxiliary telemeters, are also produced. Optical glass is imported, some of it from America.
5. Goerz is also cooperating with Techna in designing a new, special camera which can take still color photographs on black and white film by means of the Linder system of triple images exposed simultaneously through three different color filters.\*\*
6. In Bratislava there is also a Goerz branch plant employing 80 people which produces drafting equipment. It is located on Malinovsky Street in the building of the old Michera firm which produced hydrometers. Its equipment is modern and was made by Techna in 1947 and 1948.
7. Another Bratislava plant, employing only 20 people and making alarm clocks, is controlled by Goerz. It is a small but well managed factory, formerly called Vlachinsky, which was nationalized in 1948. Its former owner remained in charge of the plant.
8. A third Bratislava factory controlled by Goerz repairs precision measuring instruments such as barometers, manometers and hydrometers. This plant, which employs 40 people, is located on the Racisdorf Road. It was nationalized in 1948.
9. Another Goerz plant, employing 35 people and manufacturing alarm clocks, is located at Turciansky Svaety Martin (050/069). It was nationalized in 1948. Expansion of this plant is, however, unlikely in view of the fact that the Moravian Chromotechna firm has been authorized by the Plan to develop the clock industry.
10. Goerz, together with its subsidiary plants, will probably soon be assigned to the Stara Tura fine mechanics national enterprise, since it is not itself large enough to warrant independent status as a national enterprise.\*\*\*

25X1 \* [ ] Comment: The current capacity of all CSR optics factories is very high, but the development work is generally very slow. This condition caused the recovery of Czech optics to fall behind that of German optics, which was very rapid after the war, and permitted the German optics industry to gain ascendancy over the Czech in the export market.

25X1 \*\* [ ] Comment: This system, whereby three images of the same subject are simultaneously exposed through three different colored filters, requires that prints be made by superimposing the three negatives. This results,

25X1 [ ] in positives which are far superior to those achieved by the conventional method of color photography. The required exposure time, however, is 10 times that necessary with the conventional method. [ ]

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