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at Horni Briza

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[redacted]

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1. Kaolin Enterprises, National Corporation, has its main plant at Horni Briza (N50/L05). A number of branch plants are subordinate to the management department of the Horni Briza plant. These branches, all entitled Kaolin Enterprises, National Corporation, are located at Lazne Jov (N50/L05), Chlumcany (N50/L02), Ledec (N50/L05), and Pobezovice (N50/P61). 25X1

2. Management Personnel. Out of a total of about 40 employees in the management department, only seven are Communist Party members. Due to a lack of interest, even among Party officials, Communist Party meetings are held at irregular intervals. The Communist greeting "Hail Comrade" (Cest praci) is not used and, except during Party meetings, Communists use the polite form of address when speaking to each other.

a. The enterprise manager is (fnu) Kopacek. [redacted] 25X1

b. The production manager is (fnu) Beran. [redacted] 25X1

c. The head of the cadre section is (fnu) Pesek, a member of the Social Democratic Party prior to February 1948, and a member of the Communist Party since that time. [redacted] 25X1

d. The chairman of the Works Council is (fnu) Cirl who was appointed to the post in 1951. [redacted] 25X1

e. The chairman of the plant Communist Party group is (fnu) Skubal [redacted] 25X1

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3. Horni Briza Plant Personnel. A personnel shortage prevails at the Horni Briza plant which has a total of about 450 employees working on three shifts. Of this total there are about 240 convicts (mostly political prisoners) from the Dory prison in Pilsen (N50/ L 04). The prisoners are billeted in a camp at Visky, about two kilometers northwest of Horni Briza. They are escorted to work daily by about seven guards. Plant police are assigned the task of keeping the prisoners from conversing with civilian employees during working hours. Apparently they are not always successful. At a Communist Party meeting in December 1951 the head of the plant police complained that prisoners were well informed about foreign news broadcasts and threatened to have the employees responsible for passing information to the prisoners arrested if discovered. Members of the plant police are paid 20 Kcs per hour. Since the plant police force is understaffed, members of the plant Communist Party organization must take part in the task of guarding the prisoners. Since the plant is to be allotted no further worker strength, the prisoners, who work in the mines, the mill and other plant sections, are indispensable to the fulfillment of the plant production plan.
4. Production. The present daily output of the mine is from 188 to 225 cubic meters of kaolin. One Mench and one Skoda excavator load daily a total of 250 to 300 carts, each with a 3/4 cubic meter capacity. The carts are horse drawn to a tower washer. All of the kaolin produced at this plant is either exported or sent to the Svit National Corporation at Gottwaldov (P50/ 0 21).
5. Production at the plant has been under reorganization for a half year. In order to conserve manpower, kaolin, up to now mined underground, is to be excavated from surface pits. Carts filled with kaolin will be transported by train to the plant. There the carts will be emptied into crushers which will feed the kaolin unto conveyor belts to the washer. Up to the present time, prisoners have been used to crush the kaolin clods with mallets. Technicians from the Keramstroj Enterprise in Prague are being employed in the reconstruction work. Because none of these workers are Communists, they are attempting to delay the completion of their work. Up to the end of 1951, reconstruction costs totalled 11,000,000 Kcs.
6. Machine Equipment Shortcomings. The teeth of the excavator scoop are made of soft metal and wear down or break off easily. An average of four scoops are used weekly. At present only three reserve scoops are on hand. One hundred scoops have been ordered from the Purchasing Department of the Pilsen Skoda Works; however, the promised delivery date is mid-1953.

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