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German Democratic Republic

FDD Abstract of

MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION ON THE BUNA WORKS IN SCHKOPAU (3 pp; undated)

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This document is a general report on the Buna Works in Schkopau, which belongs to the SAG (Soviet Corporation) "Kautschuk" (Rubber). The report includes the following information:

The plant treats crude rubber chemically, produces automobile tires, and also carbide, Buna (synthetic rubber), Igelit, acetylene, and ~~other items from~~ coal-distillation by-products. Sixty percent of the production planned within the Five-Year Plan is designated for reparations deliveries. The plant has recently started producing a synthetic lubricating oil from black coal, which is used for friction bearings. The production and use of caustic soda is to be considerably expanded in 1952, and the output of Buna is to be increased from 50,000 to 70,000 tons in 1952. In addition, experiments are underway for production goods, especially for the production of synthetic bristles, known as PCU-bristles. The plant's annual output includes about 8,000 tons of Igelit, 30-35 tons of Venillacetat, about 250 tons of monochloroacetic acid, and about 180 tons of Polysterol.

The plant employs 18,000 workers, 2,000 of whom are office employees, and operates in three shifts. In addition to its two own power plants and one waterworks, the plant receives electric power from the Bitterfeld and Zschornowitz power stations.

Black coal, of which five trainloads (each with 30-40 railroad cars) arrive daily, is procured from Upper Silesia. Consumers of plant production are: a) about three-fourths of the plant's total output goes to the RASNO-Import/Moscow on reparations account; b) of the remainder, the greater part stays in the GDR, and a small part is exported to Poland and Czechoslovakia.

Bottlenecks at the plant are: a) procurement of acid-proof steel and seamless tubes; b) the brown-coal and coke supply is estimated to be inadequate for 1952; c) shortage of workers.

The report also contains brief bits of information on the plant security system, scientific-research laboratories, and transportation facilities, and furnishes the names of key administrative and technical personnel in both the Soviet and German managements of the plant.

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