

C O N F I D E N T I A L

GERMAN PETROLEUM INDUSTRY
HAMBURG DISTRICT

REPORT No. 10

W.I.F.O. OIL-STORAGE AND BLENDING STATION
HITZACKER

Reported By

MR. W.H. THOMAS - Brit. Min. of Fuel & Power

on behalf of the

BRITISH MINISTRY OF FUEL & POWER

AND THE

U.S. TECHNICAL INDUSTRIAL INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE

JUNE, 1945

C.I.O.S. Target No. 30

FUELS AND LUBRICANTS

COMBINED INTELLIGENCE OBJECTIVES SUB-COMMITTEE

G-2 Division, S.H.A.E.F. (Rear) APO. 413

W.I.F.O. OIL-STORAGE AND BLENDING STATION.

During the interrogation of the managing personnel it was ascertained that the W.I.F.O. Station received refined fuels or fuel components and lubricants from the various refineries in the Hamburg area, blended them according to requirements, leaded the aviation fuel blends and despatched the finished blends to the various sections of the Wehrmacht.

Motor fuels received an addition of 0.01 per cent by volume of mixed cresols (Z.V.1) as an inhibitor of gum formation, but it had not been found necessary to add any inhibitor for the prevention of lead precipitation because tetra ethyl lead was only added prior to despatch of the fuel and hence storage-life was rarely longer than a fortnight.

Winter, Summer and tropical grades of lubricants were prepared and these were inhibited against ring-sticking and corrosion by the addition of 0.04 per cent by volume of a non-metallic inhibitor designated as Z.S.I. This inhibitor was supplied by I.G. and its composition was not known.

Drums of aniline, monoethyl aniline and methanol were in storage at Hitzacker but the personnel professed to have no knowledge of the use or purpose of these materials which had never been employed in the preparation of blends.

The station contained 30 underground tanks, 10 of which were destroyed during two air-raids in April 1945.

There was also an extensive chemical laboratory fully equipped with oil-testing equipment and an engine-test laboratory containing (a) one C.F.R. engine (b) one I.G. Prufmotor and (c) one D.K.W. engine for ring-sticking tests.

It was stated that the D.K.W. engine gave results in good agreement with those of the B.M.W. engine, but this opinion is at variance with that expressed by Dr. Reichel of Rhenania, Ossag.

The laboratory appeared to contain no oil-samples, but it was agreed that samples of certain stocks should be obtained and submitted to C.I.O.S.

authorities, but it is not known what samples have actually been received.

All documents were stated to have been removed by the Wehrmacht and files were ostentatiously empty.

Personnel Interrogated:

Dr. Kaiser - Manager. Herr Rhormann - Chemist.
Herr. Plote - Lawyer. Herr Zanner.

Date of

Investigation: - May 18th 1945.

Interrogators:

Mr. L. Evans.	U.S.	Petrol. Admin. for War
Mr. P. Kuhne.	U.S.	" " " "
Mr. W.H. Thomas.	Brit.	Ministry of Fuel & Power.
Mr. C.M. Barton.	Brit.	" " " "
Mr. R.J. Bender.	U.S. Navy.	