

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

GERMAN PETROLEUM INDUSTRY  
HAMBURG DISTRICT

REPORT No. 3

RHENANIA-OSSAG MINERALOLWERKE, HAMBURG  
GRASBROOK REFINERY,

*Reported By*

MR. C.A. HARRISON - Brit. Min. of Fuel & Power

*on behalf of the*

BRITISH MINISTRY OF FUEL & POWER

AND THE

U.S. TECHNICAL INDUSTRIAL INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE

JUNE, 1945

G.I.O.S. Target No. 30/3.01b

COMBINED INTELLIGENCE OBJECTIVES SUB-COMMITTEE

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

## GRASBROOK REFINERY.

The Refinery was designed and erected before the war for the manufacture of a wide range of fully refined lubricating oils and greases from base lube stocks supplied from outside but mainly from the Harburg Refinery which then operated on imported Mexican and Venezulan topped crudes. The major items of plant included an Edeleanu SO<sub>2</sub> solvent extraction unit having a capacity of 10,000 tons/month, two grease plants for the manufacture of soda and lime greases respectively, ample blending tankage, barrelling and drumming installations and adequate wharfage and railway facilities for handling the products in and out of the refinery.

Power was taken from the mains but steam and water requirements were met from the Refinery boiler house and water pumping station.

Production averaged 120,000 tons/year of lubricating oils and 5,000 tons/year of greases.

With the exception of a clay extraction plant similar to the Harburg unit already described, no new plant has been installed in the Refinery since 1939.

During the war the absence of imported oils necessitated operation at the Refinery on products derived from indigenous crudes obtained mainly from the Reitbrook, Heide, Misburg and Zesterdorf fields. In addition synthetic base lubes were also received for blending purposes.

Considerable experimental work was done to obtain suitable substitutes for standard grades of both lubricating oils and greases - and some of these substitutes, particularly greases blended with silica gel, may have some commercial value in the future. Further details on these developments are included in the report on Shell House, C.I.O.S. No. 30/3.01.

The Refinery has been heavily bombed and the following plants appear to have been destroyed, but owing to the extreme congestion some site clearing is necessary before a final assessment is possible:-

1. The Solvent extraction plant.
2. The Lime grease manufacturing plant.

3. The major proportion of the tankage.
4. The water pumphouse.

The following plants are in reasonable condition:-

1. The Soda grease plant.
2. The Boiler house.
3. The Laboratory building and all the considerable facilities which were temporarily dispersed to Wedel, and have been investigated.
4. The Barrel and drum filling installation.

The Management stated that sufficient repairs could be effected to these slightly damaged plants, to the boiler house and water pumping station, and the limited tankage still available to permit operation on a reduced scale at the rate of 4,000 tons/month after 3 to 4 month's work.

Site clearing work was already in operation at the Refinery but it is felt that considerable effort will be needed in order to meet the above estimate.

#### Personnel Interrogation

Dr. Nerring            -- Refinery Manager, Grasbrook.  
Dr. Lutkemeyer       - Technical Director - Shell House.  
Mr. Maersklin        - Chief Engineer - Shell House.

#### Date of Visit and Party

17th May, 1945.

Mr. P. de H. Hall	Brit. Min. of Fuel & Power
Mr. C.A. Harrison	" " " " " "
Mr. C.R. Middleton	" " " " " "

(Signed) C.A. HARRISON.