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GERMAN PETROLEUM INDUSTRY
HAMBURG DISTRICT

Hull, P. de H

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COMBINED INTELLIGENCE OBJECTIVES
SUB-COMMITTEE

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

GERMAN PETROLEUM INDUSTRY
HAMBURG DISTRICT

INTRODUCTORY REPORT

C.I.O.S. INVESTIGATION TEAM TO HAMBURG DISTRICT

12th - 27th MAY, 1945.

Reported By

P. de H. HALL (Brit.)

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/ 308

FUELS & LUBRICANTS

COMBINED INTELLIGENCE OBJECTIVES SUB-COMMITTEE

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

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I N T R O D U C T I O N .

(1) OBJECT OF VISIT.

The object of the visit (C.I.O.S. Trip No.203) was to study the Petroleum Refining Industry including the performance, utilisation; and testing of products, and research, in the Hamburg area (including Bremen & Kiel). A part of the team also visited Hanover.

The following C.I.O.S. targets were allotted to the team:-

Rhenania-Ossag, Shell-Haus, Hamburg (30/3.01).
Rhenania-Ossag, Harburg Refinery (30/3.01a).
Rhenania-Ossag, Grasbrook Refinery (30/3.01b).
Deutsche Vacuum A/G. Schulau-Wedel (30/3.09).
Deutsche Vacuum, Oslebshausen, Bremen.

A number of other targets, mainly those indicated by previous C.A.F.T. reconnaissance, were also investigated.

(2) PERSONNEL.

The team was composed as follows:-

Mr. P.de H. Hall, Leader.	Brit. Min.of Fuel & Power.
Mr. Vladimir Haensel, Deputy Leader.	U.S. Petrol.Admin.for War
Mr. E.H. Boomer	Can. Min. of Supply.
Mr. C.A. Harrison	Brit. Min. of Fuel & Power.
Mr. W.H. Thomas	Brit. " " " " "
Mr. C.H. Barton	Brit. " " " " "
Lt. Rene J. Bender (Left 19/5/45)	U.S. Navy Bureau of Ships.
Mr. Paul K. Kuhne	U.S. Petrol.Admin.for War
Mr. Donald S. Fraser	U.S. " " " "
Mr. D. Morten (Joined 14/5/45)	Brit. Min. of Fuel & Power.

(3) DURATION OF VISIT.

The above team left London on Saturday 12th May 1945 and arrived at Winsen (about 20 Km se of Hamburg) on Sunday 13th May.

Winsen remained the headquarters of the team for the duration of the trip. The British members of the

team returned to London on Friday 25th May. The remaining members visited the Hanover area and returned to London on Sunday 27th May 1945.

(4) COMPILATION OF THE SET OF REPORTS.

The team investigation record consists of some 15 separate reports written by various members of the team. These 15 reports cover in detail the principal targets visited, and set out the information obtained both by inspection, and interrogation of personnel. A large number of documents were collected and despatched to C.I.O.S. G.2 Div. S.H.A.E.F. (rear), and lists of these documents are attached to the respective reports, but at the time these reports were compiled the documents were not available for study.

The separate reports in the set on the German Petroleum Industry - Hamburg District, all dated June 1945, are as follows:-

<u>Report No.</u>	<u>Title</u>
	Introductory Report.
1.	Rhenania-Ossag. Shell-Haus.
2.	Rhenania-Ossag. Harburg Refinery.
3.	Rhenania-Ossag. Grasbrook Refinery.
4.	Deutsche Vacuum Oel A/G (including Schulau Refinery)
5.	Rhenania-Ossag. Wilhemsburg Refinery.
6.	Rhenania-Ossag Test Laboratory. Tiessau.
7.	Deutsche-Erdollwerke A/G. Hemmingstedt Refinery.
8.	Ostermoor Refinery.
9.	Ebano Asphalt Werke A/G (Refinery at Harburg)
10.	W.I.F.O. Oil Storage & Blending Station (Hitzacker)

<u>Report No.</u>	<u>Title</u>
11.	Chemisché-Physikalische (Danish-Nienhof).
12.	Interrogation of Dr. Wissel. Hydriewerke Pölitz.
13.	Reichsinstitut Fur Erdolforschung. Hannover
14.	Norddeutsche Mineralölwerke. Pölitz. (Interrogation of Dr. Hans Hartmann)
15.	Description of German Underground Plants.

(5) The GERMAN PETROLEUM REFINING INDUSTRY. (Hamburg district)

(a) REFINERIES.

Hamburg and district is the main centre of the Petroleum Refinery Industry in Germany. Before the war the refineries operated mainly on imported topped crude principally of Mexican and Venezuelan origin, producing lubricating oils, waxes, greases, special cuts of light spirit and asphalt.

As a result of the war, imported stocks were not available and the refineries had to process various indigenous crudes, (e.g. Reitbrook (Hamburg) Heide, Nienhagen and Austrian). These crudes were topped and the residues were worked up into a somewhat similar range of products to that produced before the war, whilst the gasoline and gas oil cuts were sent elsewhere for working up into engine fuels.

Broadly speaking, the refinery plant inspected was all of conventional pattern and no new types of process were found.

The refineries visited are described in the attached reports Nos. 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8 & 9.

(b) PRODUCTS. As will be seen from the above brief description of refinery operation in the Hamburg district no finished fuels were produced and as a result very little information on their specification, utilisation,

and performance was obtained, but Report No.11 gives some details of high speed diesel fuels, flame thrower fuels and synthetic fuels.

As regards lubricating oils, greases, cutting oils, marine engine oils etc., however, a fair amount of detail was collected and the bulk of this will be found in report No.1. Reference should also be made to reports Nos. 1, 4, 6, 10, 11, 12, 13 & 14.

(c) LABORATORY WORK AND TESTING.

All laboratories at the different refineries and installations were inspected and the type of work carried out in these is described in reports Nos. 4, 6, 10 & 11.

It will be seen that the work carried out was on entirely normal lines and calls for no special comment.

(d) RESEARCH WORK.

Practically no research work was carried out by the Petroleum Industry in the Hamburg area, but some details of the work in this field, carried out at Amsterdam, were obtained from Prof. Zerbe - Research Director, Rhenania-Ossag (See report No.1, Section 16) Reference should also be made to report No.11 on the visit to C.P.V.A. and report No.13 Reichsinstitut Fur Erdolforschung, Hannover.

(e) HYDROGENATION.

Though not strictly within the terms of reference of this team opportunity was taken of the presence of Dr. Wissel at Winsen to interrogate him, and obtain, from the documents he had with him, information regarding the work on hydrogenation of coal and coal tar carried out at Hydriewerke Politz (Stettin) see report No.12.

(f) SYNTHETIC LUBRICATING OILS.

A description of the plant originally erected for the manufacture of synthetic lubricating oil at Harburg refinery will be found in report No.2, whilst report No.14 describes the information obtained from

an interrogation of Dr. Hartmann regarding the work in this connection carried out at Norddeutsche Mineralolwerke, Pölitz.

(6) OTHER TARGETS.

(a) UNDERGROUND PLANTS in addition to the subjects and reports briefly referred to in the foregoing, attention is directed to report No.15 which gives a brief general description of a number of different types of underground plants either projected or which subsequently operated.

(b) Deutsche Amerikanische Petroleum-Gesellschaft, Hamburg.

This Company which is a Standard Oil Subsidiary, had its Head Office in Hamburg and Dr. Geyer a Director, was interrogated and documents examined. These latter were largely economic and commercial and of little technical interest, but amongst them were found papers relating to Norddeutsche Mineralolwerke, Pölitz, see report No.14.

(c) "OLEX" Deutsche Benzine Und Petroleum Gesellschaft, Hamburg.

This Company, an Anglo Iranian Oil Co. subsidiary, is purely a distributing company. It has two fair sized installations on the Elbe at Hamburg, the larger one at Kohlbrand was visited. It has been considerably damaged by air raids. The installation revealed no matter of technical interest and consequently no report is made on this visit.

(d) Kriegsmarine Underground Storage Installation, Achim, Nr. Bremen.

A visit was made to this installation as it was understood that a well equipped laboratory existed there. It was found, however, on inspection that the laboratory had been very largely wrecked during the course of the fighting and the place was in great disorder particularly the documents. A book dealing with Kriegsmarine lubricating oil specifications was, however, removed for despatch. So far as could be

seen, no research work of any particular interest was carried out at this laboratory.

(7) GENERAL CONCLUSIONS.

As remarked above under 5(a) the refineries in the Hamburg district appear to have operated on entirely conventional lines and no new development of any consequence in processes or technique was observed.

The major occupation of the various laboratories visited appears to have been the normal routine of process control and testing, particularly directed towards the production of substitute materials for those rendered unobtainable due to the war.

As regards research work, practically none of this was carried out by the Petroleum Industry though apparently certain Government Institutions not in the Hamburg district did some work in this connection.

It will be seen from the above that broadly speaking little of any outstanding interest was discovered during the trip though this statement must be qualified by the fact that the large number of documents collected have not been examined in detail, and these may conceivably produce something of interest though a cursory inspection of them does not indicate that such will be the case.

(Sgd.) P. de H. HALL.