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Subject: ITEMS ON GERMAN COAL PRODUCTION

SUMMARY

Coal production remained surprisingly high throughout 1944. Not until November 44 did hard coal production fall below the monthly levels of 1939; and brown coal remained at 1939 levels until February 45. Production of hard coal in the week ending 2 June was still only about two-thirds of the essential military and civilian requirements; brown coal briquettes were being produced only for one-third of requirements. Except for the small field at Aachen, where a labor shortage continues, this present inadequacy of coal shipments is due to a lack of rolling stock and locomotives. It is expected that the transport stringency will be eased sufficiently to meet the schedule of requirements listed in the Koenig Report (two copies now sent you) and to permit sizeable exports to other countries in Northwest Europe by September. A schedule of the requests for coal already made by these countries for the remainder of the year (totalling more than 2 million tons monthly) is attached. These needs can be met only if the countries involved provide coal cars and locomotives; otherwise deliveries may be only one-third to one-half of the demands.

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E.O.U., AMERICAN EMBASSY

30 June 1945

ITEMS ON GERMAN COAL PRODUCTION

Further information has come in during the past week which helps fill some of the gaps in what has been known about past, present, and future coal production in Germany. The bits do not yet add up to a full story, but they are collected and forwarded for whatever good they may do in advance of a more thorough job.

Summary

Coal production remained surprisingly high throughout 1944. Not until November 44 did hard coal production fall below the monthly levels of 1939; and brown coal remained at 1939 levels until February 45. Production of hard coal in the week ending 2 June was still only about two-thirds of the essential military and civilian requirements; brown coal briquettes were being produced only for one-third of requirements. Except for the small field at Aachen, where a labor shortage continues, this present inadequacy of coal shipments is due to a lack of rolling stock and locomotives. It is expected that the transport stringency will be eased sufficiently to meet the schedule of requirements listed in the Koenig Report (two copies now sent you) and to permit sizeable exports to other countries in Northwest Europe by September. A schedule of the requests for coal already made by these countries for the remainder of the year (totalling more than 2 million tons monthly) is attached. These needs can be met only if the countries involved provide coal cars and locomotives; otherwise deliveries may be only one-third to one-half of the demands.

Coal Production before Allied Occupation.

The Speer data on total coal output through February 45 have been generally confirmed by a set of independent records, kept in rough form in the files of the Rheinisches Braunkohlen Bezirk. Monthly production statistics, conforming to those formerly published in the Reichsvereinigung Kohle Statistischer Bericht (EWD Manuscript of 8 December '44) for earlier periods, bring the detailed picture up through November 44. While they indicate a sharp drop from high wartime levels of production beginning in September 44, hard coal did not fall below the 1939 levels of output until November, and brown coal was still being produced "normally" in that month. The Speer estimates, which ran consistently 6 to 800,000 tons higher for hard coal, do not show a significant drop below 1939 until January 1945. Speer's estimates and the new ones run very close together for brown coal, and it is not until February 45 that the estimates fall below 1939 levels.

See OVER for footnote 1/

Only damage to mines or transport after the turn of this last year, then, could possibly have had the effect of reducing the coal potential below the pre-war level. Several tables have been prepared from these newest records, showing hard and brown coal output by areas for 1944. These tables are attached, together with some more detailed summaries of deliveries made by the various brown coal syndicates. The overall monthly production of hard and brown coal during 1944 is recapitulated in the following table, in order to contrast these latest data with those of the Speer records, which run through February 45.

GERMAN HARD AND BROWN COAL PRODUCTION -1944/45

Month	Hard Coal		Brown Coal	
	S.S.z.K. ^{1/}	B.R.B. ^{2/}	S.S.z.K. ^{1/}	B.R.B. ^{2/}
January	23.4	22.6	24.1	24.0
February	23.1	22.3	23.0	22.9
March	24.7	23.8	25.2	25.1
April	22.5	21.7	23.2	23.2
May	23.7	22.9	23.2	23.1
June	23.2	22.4	22.5	22.4
July	22.6	21.9	22.3	22.2
August	22.6	21.8	22.0	21.9
September	18.7	18.0	22.0	20.0
October	16.2	15.6	19.4	19.3
November	14.2*	13.5	18.3*	18.2
December	14.3*	n.a.	17.5*	n.a.
January	11.8*	n.a.	17.5*	n.a.
February	7.0*	n.a.	13.8	n.a.
Total for first eleven months:	234.9	226.5	245.2	242.4

* Estimated.

^{1/} Data from Statistische Schnellberichte zur Kriegsproduktion, February 1945.

^{2/} Data from the files of Bezirksgruppe Rheinische Braunkohlenbergbau.

Present Coal Production.

Because of necessary delays in processing reports sent in from the mines, only current production for the week ending 2 June is at hand. Merchantable production of hard coal increased 32 percent over the preceding week. Pithead production had increased only 15 percent, but as explained in the letter of 15 June the merchantable proportion of any increase in gross output will become increasingly higher with further expansion of working. Transferred to a monthly basis, the coal won during this week amounted to about 500,000 tons, of which more than 400,000 was hard coal. On 21 June, Field Marshall Montgomery said in a press conference that the current monthly rate of output for the Ruhr alone was 1,200,000 tons. Presuming that this refers to pithead production, it would bring merchantable hard coal output for the SAAR area up to more than 550,000 tons. In the absence of any detailed confirmation of the Field Marshall, however, a table has been prepared to show the monthly rate of output and distribution achieved during the week ending 2 June.

^{1/}
MONTHLY RATE OF COAL PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION IN
GERMAN FIELDS
(as of week ending 2 June 45: in 000 metric tons)

District	Merchantable Production	Stocks subject to weekly lift	^{2/} Total Loadings	Total Loading Ability at the Mines ^{2/}
Ruhr	359.1)	1,157.3	517.6	2,060.1*
Saar	43.7)		70.8	70.8
Aachen	9.0	None	2.7	54.0
Hard coal sub-total:	411.8	1,157.3	591.1	2,184.9
Cologne Brown	85.0**	70.0**	91.8**	220.0
Total monthly rate:	496.8	1,227.3	682.9	2,404.9

* Estimated capacity calculated at 66.2 for the week, but exceeded by shipments actually loaded.

**Brown coal briquettes, of which each ton is roughly equivalent to seven-tenths (.7) of a ton of hard coal.

^{1/}Based on 4½ weeks per month. ^{2/}Total stocks at mines having main line rail connections, after allowing for coal held in security reserve. At rate of lift scheduled for week of 2-9 June, this total will be consumed before the end of the month. ^{3/}In terms of present loading capacity at the mines, and free track access to the mines. No consideration given to availability of wagons and locomotives, or to track capacity of lines leading to consumers.

Actual rail capacity into the mines, and the loading capacity at the mines, now considerably exceed current loadings in the Ruhr, and at Aachen. The Ruhr difficulty seems to be a shortage of cars and locomotives to come in to remove the coal, since stocks available for weekly lift exceed loadings considerably. By the end of the month, however, if loadings can be carried out at even one half of the total loading capacity available, surplus stocks will have been eliminated, while current output will also have been fully moved. It would then appear that merchantable production itself would become the bottleneck. However, subject to confirmation in the field during the next week, it is my own understanding that production will in fact expand sufficiently to take the place of the shipments now coming out of surplus stocks.

The Aachen problem is quite different. There stocks are below the safety line, and the excess of production over the amount which the rails are able to carry away is going into reserves at the mines. Manpower is still the greatest need, with employment at 14 percent of 1939, while it is up to 58 percent in the Ruhr and 32 percent in the Saar. Miners in the Ruhr and the Cologne fields are largely employed now in rehabilitation work around the mines, and the arrival of a further 50 to 75,000 miners during July and August is greatly feared as a strain on food and housing, so long as transport limits the total production. Saar prospects, too, are rapidly increasing and July production is expected to be $4\frac{1}{2}$ times that shown in this table. The data make it clear that the rails, and loading capacity at the Saar mines are being stretched to the limit at present, and that the accomplishment of this July production target depends upon improvement in rail service.

As a result of these varying shortages in transport and manpower, the coal disposed of during the week ending 2 June did not reach a monthly rate adequate for military and essential civilian requirements, as presented in the Koenig Report of 18 May. Total loadings of hard coal were at the rate of $\frac{2}{3}$ of requirements; brown coal briquettes (data from Cologne only), at $\frac{1}{3}$. These figures are presented in the following table.

PRESENT MONTHLY RATE OF OUTPUT IN RELATION TO JUNE REQUIREMENTS*
(as of week ending 2 June)

Type of Coal	Output		Requirements (^{'000} metric tons)	Percent Output of Requirements	
	Merchantable production (^{'000} metric tons)	Loadings (^{'000} metric tons)		Production	Loadings
Hard Coal	411.8	591.1	897.0	46	66
Brown Coal Briquettes	85.0*	91.8**	278.0	31	33

* Requirements as given in the Koenig Report.

** Production of brown coal briquettes available only for Cologne fields. Requirements are those against all fields in SHAEF area.

No explanation has been found here for the slight drop in briquette production from the rate reached in the preceding week.

While the present picture of German production may not seem to meet expectations, it must be remembered that this represents only slightly more than one full month of operations in the two largest fields. It gains, too, in the perspective supplied by observing the loadings from this week's production and stocks amounted to 33 percent of the total for Northwest Europe. The remainder comes from France (39 percent), Belgium (19 percent), and the Netherlands (9 percent).

Future German Production and Demands upon it.

As the fields are being rehabilitated, optimism over probable future production has increased considerably. Labor in the German fields, now at 187,000, will be steadily increased until there are 375,000 miners on the lists in December. A large fraction of present labor is still devoted to increasing the coal handling and loading facilities at the mines, so that the present capacity for 2 million tons monthly will be at least tripled by December. Requirements for that month will be about 3.2 million tons of hard and 3.5 million tons of brown (of which 1.2 will be used to make 450,000 tons of briquettes). The total rail load for these requirements will be about 5.5 million tons. In addition, the six formerly occupied countries of Northwest Europe have put in claims for a monthly total varying from 2.0 to 2.3 million tons of hard coal.

A copy of the table showing imports required by these other countries is attached. French requests account for one half of the total, and they have been buttressed by a letter from President Truman to the Prime Minister, asking that more be done to get coal out of the Ruhr to France (London Times, 30 June). The SHLEF position is that coal will be furnished in proportion to the number of wagons sent by France to the mines; so far none have been sent, and the net westward flow of mixed wagons across the Rhine has been 12,000. Belgium, on the other hand, claims that nearly half of its wagon supply is still in France, and that it cannot act until these have been returned to it. In the meanwhile, SHLEF is doing what it can to step up French production at home by distributing food, clothing, and mine supplies to the French out of army supplies. For June, July, and August, a total of 2,600 tons of food, and 60,000 suits of clothing will be distributed in the Nord and Pas de Calais. In meat alone this will represent 150 grs per miner per day. 11 carloads of mining equipment have already been shipped in; but there is no estimate of additional amounts available or required. The result during the first week of these new measures was an increase in merchantable production at the rate of 500,000 tons per month; which suggests that the French demands upon the Ruhr may be pared down. Pre-war French imports from German fields ran at less than 500,000 tons per month; it is probable that SHLEF and the European Coal Organization will keep present deliveries at that level.

Whatever the eventual division among these claimant countries, it is clear from the present position of rolling stock in Germany that at best only one third to one half of the total demand can be met unless further wagons are supplied by the claimants themselves. Shipments to the Netherlands during May ran ahead of the target amount because it was possible to use barges. It is hoped that the much greater Dutch demands for the rest of the year can largely be transported in the same way.

Looking further to the future, it is probable that coal shipments of 2 million monthly tons can be regularly available for distribution by the Reichsbahn to the claimant countries during the spring of 1946. No calculations have yet been made of any additional amounts which may be available for Sweden, Switzerland, or Italy. Coal supplies in North Italy will be exhausted during the present summer, however, and the Italian Government claims that it has access to sufficient rolling stock to move some of its requirements from the Ruhr. It has not yet introduced any data to support this claim.

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ROBERT ROBA

BROWN-COAL AND BRIQUETTE PRODUCTION

IN THE RHINELAND - 1944

(in '000 metric tons)

Month	<u>Rheinisches Braunkohlen-Bezirk</u>		<u>Heddergrubbe A.G.</u>	
	Brown Coal	Briquettes	Brown Coal	Briquettes
January	5,794	1,170	2,223	258
February	5,545	1,133	2,122	246
March	5,996	1,235	2,296	268
April	5,369	1,147	2,011	246
May	5,779	1,249	2,122	271
June	5,624	1,226	2,035	267
July	5,588	1,228	2,017	268
August	5,431	1,192	1,872	248
September	3,894	774	1,592	181
October	2,556	463	1,074	123
November	1,412	306	210	40
December	1,466	306	247	31
Total:	54,454	11,429	19,821	2,447

Source: Bezirksgruppe Rheinische Braunkohlenbergbau

Note: The Rheinisches Braunkohlen Bezirk data for November and December differ from those carried as Rhineland production in the two preceding tables:
 (1) German Brown-Coal Output - 1944
 and (2) German Production of Brown-Coal Briquettes 1944.
 Presumably this table is based on later and more nearly accurate information.

GERMAN BROWN-COAL OUTPUT - 1944

(in '000 metric tons)

Month	Total	Rhineland ¹⁾	Central Germany ¹⁾	East of Elbe ¹⁾	Austria ²⁾	Sudetenland ³⁾	Remaining Areas ⁴⁾
January	23,608	5,794	9,660	5,615	237	2,165	138
February	22,538	5,545	9,078	5,449	236	2,100	129
March	24,724	5,996	10,128	5,862	251	2,345	142
April	22,779	5,369	9,362	5,510	230	2,227	80
May	22,743	5,779	8,846	5,635	239	2,169	75
June	22,047	5,624	8,545	5,412	226	2,156	83
July	21,872	5,588	8,294	5,597	209	2,107	75
August	21,616	5,431	13,781		228	2,096	81
September	19,687	3,894	13,455		230	2,019	89
October	19,077	2,556	14,220		229	1,975	96
November	17,974	1,388	14,188		217	2,077	105
December	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.		n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Total for eleven months:	238,665	52,964	158,637		2,532	23,436	1,093

- 1) The figures for Rhineland, Central Germany, and East of Elbe coincide with those reported for crude brown coal from these areas (in earlier periods) in the EMD document "German Coal Mining Statistics for the War Period". Production from Central Germany and East of Elbe reported together from August '44.
- 2) The Austrian production does not include Glanz Coal, which amounted during 1943 to about 250 thousand tons per month.
- 3) Sudeten production falls under the heading "hard brown coal, pitch coal and glanz coal", and presumably includes all types of lignite produced.
- 4) The "Remaining Areas" do not include Bavarian "Bresskohle", which was probably about 150 thousand tons per month. The absence of this item, and of the Austrian glanz coal, accounts for the slight difference between the total output shown in this table and that shown for brown coal in the table "German Coal Output - 1944".

Source: Bezirksgruppe Rheinische Braunkohlenbergbau.

GERMAN PRODUCTION OF BROWN-COAL BRIQUETTES - 1944

(in '000 metric tons)

Month	Total	Rhineland	Central ¹⁾ Germany	East of ¹⁾ Elbe	Austria	Sudeten- land	Remaining Areas
January	4,995	1,170	2,317	1,447	30	26	4
February	4,747	1,133	2,148	1,408	30	24	4
March	5,243	1,235	2,417	1,526	33	27	4
April	5,004	1,147	2,302	1,498	28	27	2
May	5,077	1,249	2,228	1,540	29	29	2
June	4,982	1,226	2,240	1,458	28	28	3
July	4,953	1,228	2,140	1,532	24	27	3
August	4,968	1,192	2,168	1,549	27	29	3
September	4,368	774	3,536		26	28	3
October	4,193	463	3,672		27	28	3
November	3,998	290	3,653		23	29	4
December	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.		n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Total for eleven months:	52,528	11,107	40,779		305	302	35

1) Production from Central Germany and East of Elbe reported together from September '44.

Source: Bezirksgruppe Rheinische Braunkohlenbergbau.

GERMAN COAL OUTPUT - 1944

(in '000 metric tons)

Month	Hard Coal	Hard coal coke (metallurgical)	Hard coal briquettes	Brown coal	Brown coal briquettes	Brown coal* coke
January	22,563	4,637	519	24,024	4,995	568
February	22,276	4,399	546	22,925	4,747	531
March	23,831	4,672	573	25,139	5,243	573
April	21,706	4,456	478	23,150	5,004	552
May	22,917	4,550	490	23,107	5,077	491
June	22,380	4,365	510	22,399	4,982	502
July	21,854	4,424	490	22,188	4,953	475
August	21,844	4,309	490	21,933	4,968	486
September	18,027	3,716	380	19,957	4,368	363
October	15,601	3,132	245	19,335	4,193	427
November	13,518	2,496	261	18,239	3,998	430
December	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Total for eleven months:	226,517	45,156	4,982	242,396	52,528	5,448

* Less than total output of LTC (low temperature carbonization) coke.
Cf. Jan. - Mar. '44 data on LTC in LWD Monograph "German Coal Mining
Statistics for the War Period", Table I-B.

Source: Bezirksgruppe Rheinische Braunkohlenbergbau.

SALES OF THE GERMAN BROWN-COAL SYNDICATE
by coal years (April - Mar.) 1935/36 to 1943/44
(in '000 metric tons)

I Rheinland

Coal Year	Total Sales	Household		Industry		Exports	
		t	%	t	%	t	%
1935/36	9,653	7,746	80	1,907	20	1,043	11
1936/37	10,534	8,316	79	2,218	21	1,014	10
1937/38	11,340	8,782	77	2,558	23	958	8
1938/39	12,262	9,443	77	2,819	23	893	7
1939/40	12,322	9,792	79	2,530	21	1,032	8
1940/41	13,140	10,712	82	2,428	18	421	3
1941/42	13,456	11,079	82	2,376	18	540	4
1942/43	14,280	11,608	81	2,671	19	740	5
1943/44	13,917	10,622	76	3,295	24	1,612	12

Source: Bezirksgruppe Rheinische Braunkohlenbergbau.

SALES OF THE GERMAN BROWN-COAL SYNDICATE
by coal years (April - Mar.) 1935/36 to 1943/44
(in '000 metric tons)

II East of the Elbe

Coal Year	Total Sales	Household		Industry		Exports	
		t	%	t	%	t	%
1935/36	9,412	7,190	76	2,222	24	90	1
1936/37	10,309	7,624	74	2,685	26	84	1
1937/38	11,004	7,925	72	3,079	28	116	1
1938/39	12,495	8,516	68	3,978	32	102	1
1939/40	13,724	9,536	69	4,188	31	293	2
1940/41	15,110	10,747	71	4,363	29	183	1
1941/42	15,073	10,993	73	4,080	27	198	1
1942/43	16,287	12,083	74	4,204	26	367	2
1943/44	16,508	11,750	71	4,758	29	565	3

Source: Bezirksgruppe Rheinische Braunkohlenbergbau.

SALES OF THE GERMAN BROWN-COAL SYNDICATE
by coal years (April - Mar.) 1935/36 to 1943/44
(in '000 metric tons)

III Central Germany

Coal Year	Total Sales	Household		Industry		Exports	
		t	%	t	%	t	%
1935/36	11,030	7,619	69	3,411	31	36	0*
1936/37	11,958	8,295	69	3,663	31	30	0*
1937/38	12,707	8,677	68	4,030	32	13	0*
1938/39	13,995	9,505	68	4,450	32	6	0*
1939/40	14,135	9,856	70	4,279	30	-	-
1940/41	14,675	10,386	71	4,288	29	-	-
1941/42	14,146	10,297	73	3,849	27	-	-
1942/43	15,349	11,341	74	4,008	26	-	-
1943/44	16,049	11,706	73	4,343	27	-	-

* less than one-half percent

Source: Bezirksgruppe Rheinische Braunkohlenbergbau.