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1830 REPORTS SHIP INSPECTION PRIVATE
SEPT. 1945

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INTER-OFFICE MINUTE

Ref: AO/216/ME/Tn 4.

SUBJECT : Inspection ILVA Steel Mill, BagnoliTO : Chief Rail Division
Allied Commission

The following is a report of ^{an} inspection made by this office of the ILVA Steel Mill located at Bagnoli, near Naples on September 14 and 15, 1945.

OBJECT : To determine, primarily, the date of production of steel rails and secondarily, the general rehabilitation of the plant for all types of production.

GENERAL CONDITION OF PLANT :

The Bagnoli Plant of the Ilva Steel Company was thoroughly and completely demolished through bombing by Allied Forces and through complete demolitions by German forces before leaving the area.

Clearing the area and a start at rehabilitation has been made. Considering the extent of the damage remarkable progress has been accomplished. One rolling mill is ready for operation, one blast furnace will be ready by January 1st and one oven for heating billets is awaiting electric current which will be supplied in the next 30 days.

STEEL PRODUCTION IN PLANT :

Production of steel rails will start on or about November 15, 1945 at a rate of about 100-150 tons per day. With present equipment they will be able to turn out 600 mm rail in three sizes, 36 kg/meter, 46 kg/meter and 50 kg/meter. After February 15th, 1946 with the operation of an additional set of forming rolls they will be able to increase production of rails to 300 tons per day.

Sufficient billet material is on hand to carry production for two months without additional output of billets.

Between December 15 and January 1st they will be able to operate one furnace which will turn out 250-300 tons per day. This is sufficient billet material for production of 200 tons of rail per day plus some additional structural shapes such as channels, I beams, etc. These structural shapes are planned to go into production on or about February 1st. It is my information that this plant is the only one in Italy capable of turning out 600 mm I beams.

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EQUIPMENT :

- (a) Furnace - One furnace will be ready for operation between December 15 and January 1st. About one year will be required before an additional furnace will be rebuilt and in operation.
- (b) One set of forming rolls is ready for operation requiring only the repair of a large motor which will be ready inside of 30 days. An additional set of rolls will be ready for use in the next 60 days.
- (c) One set of ovens for heating billets for forming is now ready for operation. Another will be ready before additional capacity is required.
- (d) Foundry - The Foundry is in partial operation and is used for internal plant maintenance and repair.
- (e) The coaling plant is completed but awaiting electric current which will be available by December 1st when the furnace will be ready for operation.

RAW MATERIAL :

It is anticipated that coal will be coming in at a rate of 2000 tons per month starting in October with 4000 tons.

At present there is sufficient ore and scrap on hand for 4-5 months operation.

There is a question that is being checked with Bygr, Master of the quantity of coal necessary to operate the furnace when it goes into operation. The engineer at Reynolds stated that the coal requirement for the operation of this one furnace would be from 12000-14000 tons per month with a reserve of at least 20000 tons on hand to take care of delivery delay etc. It is not practical operation once the furnace is placed in service to close down periodically then start up again. This procedure is injurious to equipment, non economical from the point of use of material and fuel and inefficient from the point of maximum production.

A check with Captain Hardy of the Industrial Sub-Commission indicates that the matter is receiving attention. This matter will be followed thru with the Industrial Sub-Commission to be sure as far as possible that coal will be on hand when the furnace is ready in December. There is insufficient raw material on hand to permit delay in getting the furnace in operation beyond December.

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GENERAL INFORMATION :

- 1. Before the war this plant produced 500 tons of steel products per day with three furnaces.
- 2. Employment before the war 4000 men.
- 3. Present employment 2000 Italian and 200 Prisoners of War.

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4. Present anticipated production -
November 15, 1945 - February 1st 100-150 tons per day.
After February 1st, 200 tons per day.

A year will be required to place an additional furnace in operation.
Prior to this any perceptible increase in output can not be counted upon.

JOHN W. GILL
Major T.C.
Mech. Engr. A.C.

Transportation Sub-Comm. (Rail Div)
Tel. 543403
20 Sept. 45.

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INTER-OFFICE MEMO

TO: SAC, NY

FROM: Chief of Rail Division.

Supplementing the report made by Major Barnes on the steel rail situation at Pionbino the following information was furnished by phone this date regarding the steel mill at Bagpoli (Naples).

- (a) Steel manufacture to start last week in October.
- (b) Rolling mill to be in shape to turn out rail at 2500 tons per month starting approximately 15 November 1945.

It is suggested the above information be verified by personal inspection by a member of this division if positive data on this mill is desired.

John W. Telf
JOHN W. TELF
Major T.O.

Transportation Sub-Commission, 43
Tel: 3,3405
1 September 45

Mr. and Mrs. Tulli
Mr. Benvenuti
Major Gao
Please investigate
and report
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JWC/10INTER-OFFICE MINUTES

Tel. 8,3403

SUBJECT : Situation of Car Shops at Colloferro.TO : Chief,
Rail Division.

A brief summary of the production situation at Colloferro Car Shops, a private industry working under contract for the I.S.R. is as follows :

1. They are working under a serious handicap of shortage of lumber and certain other materials pertinent to car construction and repair. No back log of lumber was seen at this plant and they are working from day to day making maximum use salvage scrap.

2. The following production balance has been set up to make maximum use of personnel.

Equipment and available materials :

40% Box cars of which - 15% should be metal
50% Gondolas or Flats - 20% should be metal
10% all others.

3. Shop capacity at one time 60 cars
Output of shops (present) 18 cars per week
(All work are heavy repairs of demolished or partially demolished equipment).

4. Improvising and manufacture of items such as rails and bolts, usually purchased in quantity from other sources, are examples of the effort being put into their manufacturing program.

RECOMMENDATION :

At the present time and pending availability of material in sufficient quantity to build up a working reserve it is suggested that the production schedule they have set up be continued. It is felt that a change could possibly add one or two box cars per week but at a sacrifice of a larger number of other type cars. Also the work balance in the shops would be upset to a certain degree.

DISCUSSION :

The Colloferro people are making an analysis of their material and supply problem. Upon the completion of this analysis they will put their problem before the Mechanical Section.

We will attempt to assist the organisation in procurement of operating material,

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at least, through ISR channels. When this is available, production in box cars may well be increased.

General Material Items short :

1. Soft Pine for Siding (Box Car)
2. Roofing materials
3. Nail, bolts, nuts, etc.
4. Hard wood for flooring and Gon siding.

The above for your information.

John W. GILL
Major T.C.

Transportation Sub-Commission, AC
1 September 45

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