

ITEM No. 5, 6
FILE No. XXVI-3

[REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED

SEEFLEIEGERHORST WESERMÜNDE
(Evacuation from Erprobungsstelle
der Luftwaffe, Karlshagen)

[REDACTED]

COMBINED INTELLIGENCE OBJECTIVES
SUB-COMMITTEE

I

**SEEFLIEGERHORST WESERMUNDE
(EVACUATION FROM ERPROBUNGSSTELLE
DER LUFTWAFFE, KARLSHAGEN)**

**Reported By
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**CIOS Target Nos. 5/199, 6/94
Jet Propulsion
Directed Missiles**

**COMBINED INTELLIGENCE OBJECTIVES SUB-COMMITTEE
G-2 Division, SHAEF (Rear) APO 413**

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REPORT ON C.I.C.S. TRIP NO. 242

TARGET:-

SEEFLEGERHORST WESERMÜNDE
(containing an evacuation from
ERPROBUNGSSTELLE DER LUFTWAFFE,
KARLSHAGEN)

LOCATION:-

Airfield at Wesermünde-Nord.
Map. Ref. 154/R538555

INVESTIGATORS:-

S/Idr. J.B. Reid, 71703
Ministry of Aircraft Production
Lieut. J. Pierson, 182540, Admiralty
F/Lt. A. Jones, 71209, Air Ministry.
F/Lt. W.W. Abson, 68825,
Ministry of Aircraft Production.

DATE OF INVESTIGATION:-

20th to 22nd May, 1945.

SUMMARY.

1. The target was mainly concerned with the Hs293 radiocontrolled glider bomb, the X4 wire-controlled rocket, and the BV 246 glider bomb; with flight testing; and possibly with developing other remotely controlled weapons. Since all documents had been burnt the main interest in the target lies in the personnel who have not yet been located. Valuable equipment was found, including 6 kinetheodolites.

HISTORY OF TARGET.

2. The Erprobungsstelle der Luftwaffe, Karlshagen (near Peenemünde) was evacuated from Karlshagen because of the Russian Advance on about 11 March 1945 to Seeflegerhorst Wesermünde, which it reached about 20 March. Before it had time to unpack its equipment and resume operations it was manœuvred by the British advance. Practically every document in the establishment was burnt, along with all Hs293 rocket-assisted radio-controlled glider bombs, all X4 wire-controlled rockets and their control equipment.

The target was held by T Force from 9 May. On about 18 May the personnel, including the scientific personnel

who are listed in Appendix I, were removed by 30 Corps to the concentration area for German troops between Cuxhaven and Stade. The T Force commander at the target was under the impression that the personnel were to be found at the village of Oberndorf, Map Reference L54/R9374. However, we were able to find no trace of them there, nor could we find any record of them at T Force Headquarters at Winsen, nor at Second Army Main, not at 2nd T.A.F. APWIU, nor at the 30 Corps cages at Westertinke, nor at 30 Corps at Hoya. GSIA, 30 Corps, said that the personnel are almost certainly in 8 Flak Division under Korps Ems at Stade who are controlled by 51 Highland Division at Hassdorf.

CONDITION OF TARGET.

3. Equipment is mostly in packing cases and intact. As mentioned in the previous paragraph, practically all documents, all Hs293 glider bombs, and all X4 rockets had been burnt.

The equipment is concentrated in the hangars marked "Halle 2" and "Halle 4", where the fire took place, and the buildings marked "Techn. Lager" and "prov. Küche" on the plan of the airfield, a copy of which has been sent to C.I.O.S. The aircraft are in "Halle 1".

ACTIVITIES.

4.11 The fact mentioned above in para. 2 that the Hs293 radio-controlled glider bombs and the X4 wire-controlled rockets had been singled out for destruction by fire indicates that the main function of the target was the testing of remotely controlled weapons launched from aircraft.

4.12 In the fire were found the remains of several small radio transmitters which worked off 6 V and delivered 2000 V for final anode voltage. During our investigation Oberst Graf von Saurma was escorted around the airfield by an American officer. Oberst von Saurma claimed to have been the commanding officer of the establishment. When questioned about the transmitters he said they had a power of 250 W and were used for inter-aircraft communication. It seems more likely that they were connected with the destroyed weapons

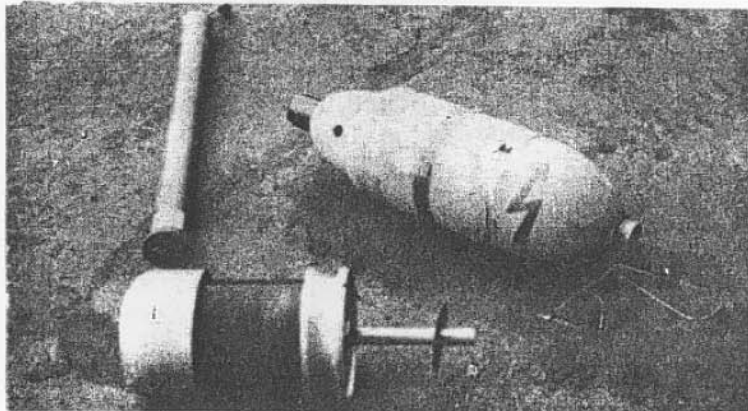
4.2 Section E2 of the Erprobungsstelle was concerned with bombs, including the BV246. About 10 of these were found. They are discussed in more detail in para. 5 below because it is believed that these are the first samples found. Over 100 small bombs were found, less nose caps. The body of each bomb was roughly 4" in diameter and 12" in length and had 4 attachment lugs. The tail section was about 7" long and contained a pair of short insulated wires, presumably for fusing. Each bomb bore the letters

h a r f

H.L.R.S.

but the first letters of each word were carried by the nose pieces which were not found. The section also had a variety of weight-dropping parachutes. All the property of the section was found in Halle 2.

4.3 Section E5VI evidently dealt with the X4 rocket, for in the Technisches Lager three bread-board models bearing this number and the words "Kommandogeber für X4". These are being sent to the R.A.E. Other pieces of equipment in the Technisches Lager belonged to Sections E5II, E5K, and E4W, whose functions were not discovered.



Photograph 1.

Wire Control Drums for Wire-Controlled Weapons.

4.4. Two sections concerned with ballistic trials or flight testing were discovered, each having three large Askania Kinetheodolites, and associated control and communication equipment. The section with the larger amount of equipment was located in Halle 4 and was known as "F. V. St. d. Lw." (possibly standing for Flug Vermessungsstelle der Luftwaffe, or Flug Versuchsstelle der Luftwaffe). The other section which was located in the "prov. Küche" building had been situated at Jesau and was designated by the letters "J. M." (probably standing for Jesau Messstelle). In addition to its kinetheodolites the section had about 10 coordinate-measuring microscopes for 35 mm. film, about 10 circular slide rules about 18" in diameter for trigonometrical computations, a large cylindrical slide rule for the same purpose, and drawing instruments.

4.5. The following sections were found in Halle 2:-

4.51. Section "FMG" (possibly Fern Mess Gruppe or Flug Mess Gruppe) evidently dealt with flight trials. About 100 distant reading altimeters, thermometers and pressure gauges were found. About 60 directional gyros were found, most of them fitted with a solenoid release on the caging knob. The section also possessed a certain amount of radio equipment, including one FuG E 28A, two FuG E 46 ZY, one Tongeber TG25, Anforderz. Ln 28801 and two less standard pieces of radio equipment, one marked FMS 50U and the other FMS 50Z.

4.52 Section E8 dealt with chemical matters, in particular, oxygen apparatus. An oxygen generator and storage tanks were found, also a portable oxygen outfit arranged as a pack to strap on the back of the wearer and known as "Heeres Atmen". Some weighing machines, recording milliammeters, chemical glass ware and a small stock of various synthetic rubber sheetings were found.

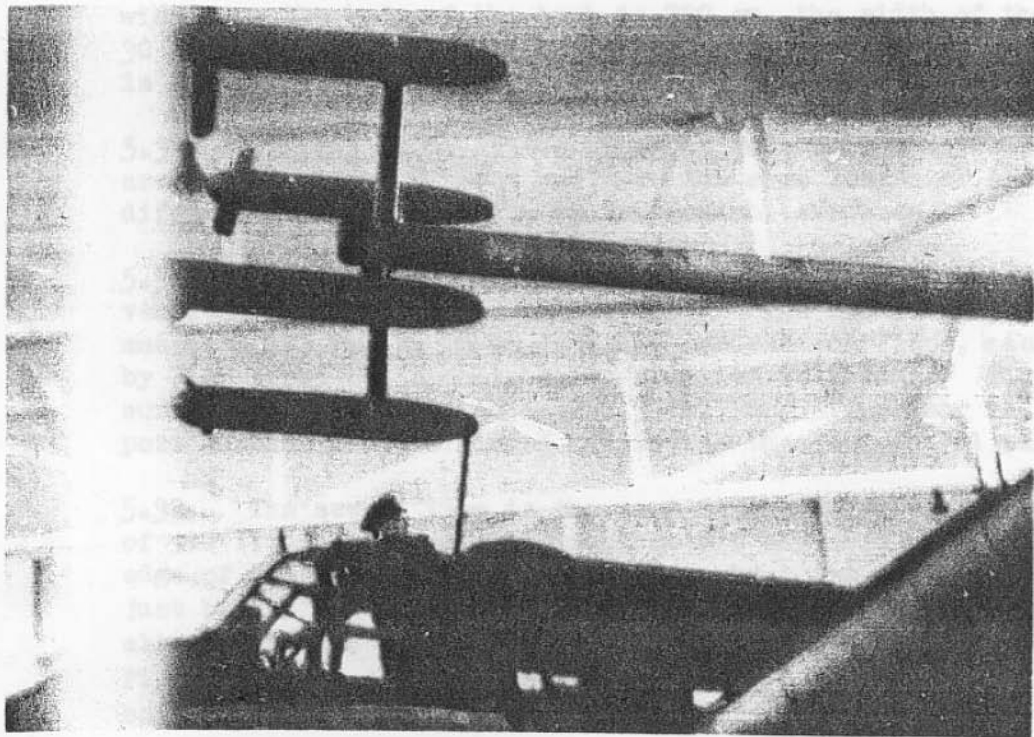
4.53. A small optical section had a number of range finders, sextants, an optical bench, a photometer and other miscellaneous pieces of optical apparatus.

4.54. Section E5W carried out climatic testing. It had a number of small chambers with controlled temperature and humidity.

4.55 Crates bearing the letters E5/II and E4B were noted, but the activities of these sections were not discovered.

4.6 The "Techn. Lager" was mainly occupied with electrical and radio apparatus. The electrical instruments were evidently intended for workshop use only. Some specialised radio instruments were sent to T.R.E. Great Malvern. Only two items were observed corresponding to British field test gear: a crude beat frequency oscillator and a wavemeter 20-30 mc/s.

4.7. In ~~the~~ 1 there were two Ju.88's with a device for carrying V1 flying bombs and two He 111's fitted with two sets of four small propellers on the wings. Photograph 2 shows one of these sets.



Photograph 2.

array of air-log airscrews on He.111.

Each ~~one~~ was connected to a counting apparatus in the aircraft. According to **Oberst von Saurma** these aircraft were used in He 111's for testing air-logs for use in V1s. A small aircraft in He 111's contained several radio transmitters and receivers, which **at von Saurma** said were used solely for inter-aircraft communication.

4.8. Most of the "prov.Küche" building was occupied with the apparatus of the photographic section or "Bildstelle, Karlshagen". The Section carried out purely routine duties only, including 35 and 16mm. cine developing and printing, "Multilith" duplication and even book-binding. The record books of the section were found and evacuated through T. Force channels as it was considered that they might prove useful clues to the activities of certain members of the Staff of the establishment as a whole, in particular those engaged on "geheime" or secret matters.

DESCRIPTION OF BV246 GLIDER BOMB.

5. Each bomb was packed in three crates; one for the warhead, one for the tail unit and a third for the wings.

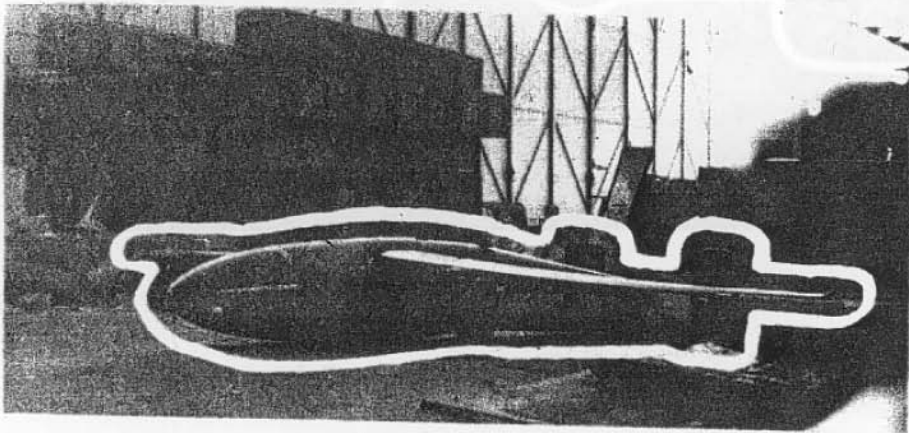
5.1. The Warhead. The warhead is about 180 cm. long and 55 cm. in diameter at the widest part. Its weight is estimated at 500 Kg. The casting is of thick steel. Under a detachable plastic nose-cap about 20cm. in diameter is a cylindrical hole about 5cm. in diameter and possibly 100 cm. in length running into the centre of the warhead to take the fuse mechanism. The wings are bolted to the top of the warhead beneath a light fairing. The tail unit is bolted to the rear edge of the warhead.

5.2. The Wings. The wings are built up of 8 laminae of sheet steel each about 3mm thick. The rough shape of the wing given by the pile of laminae is smoothed over by cement coating. The length of the wing from the body of the bomb is 290 cm. the width of the bomb is 30 cm. tapering to 15cm. at the tip, and the greatest thickness is 2.5 cm.

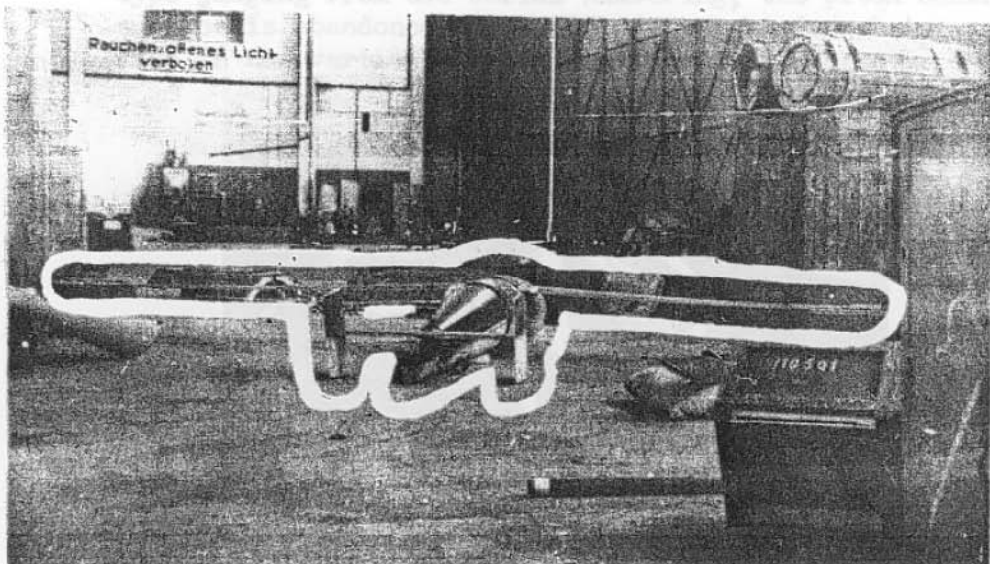
5.3. The Tail Unit. Three types of tail unit were found. All are made of light plywood and have the same length of 160 cm; the differences lying entirely in the control surfaces.

5.31. The first type has a single horizontal surface and two vertical surfaces at its extremities. The horizontal surface measures 105 cm. by 25 cm. and has two control flaps, each 24.5 cm. by 7 cm., cut out symmetrically from its rear edge. The vertical surfaces are 50 cm. high and 35.5 cm. long. The rear half of the port surface only is hinged to provide the yaw control surface.

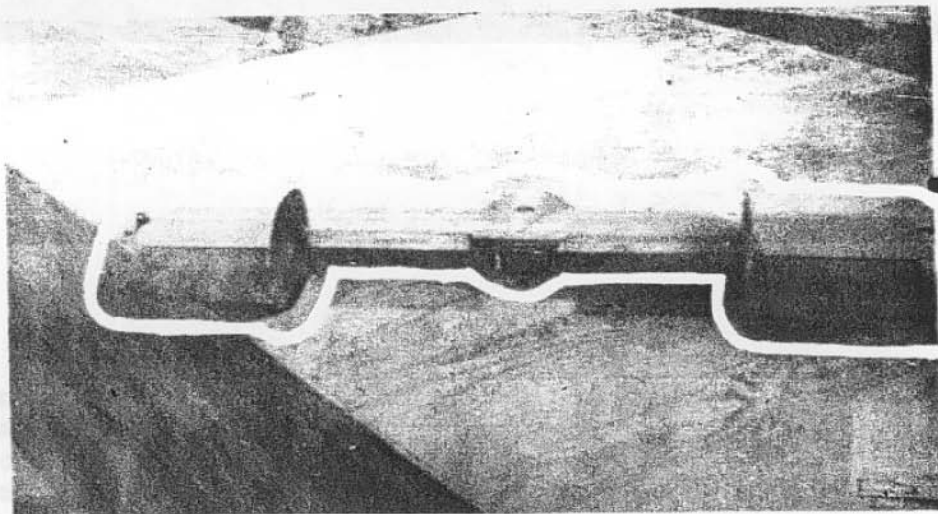
5.32. The second type is the same as the first except for the addition of two fixed vertical elliptical metal discs fitted to the trailing edge of the horizontal tail surface, about two thirds of the way out, just beyond the horizontal control flaps. The major axis of each ellipse, 30 cm. in length, is horizontal. The minor axis is 10cm. long. Figure 5 shows the tail unit without its plywood vertical surfaces which bolt to the ends of the horizontal surface.



Photograph 3.
BV246 Glider Bomb, Front View.



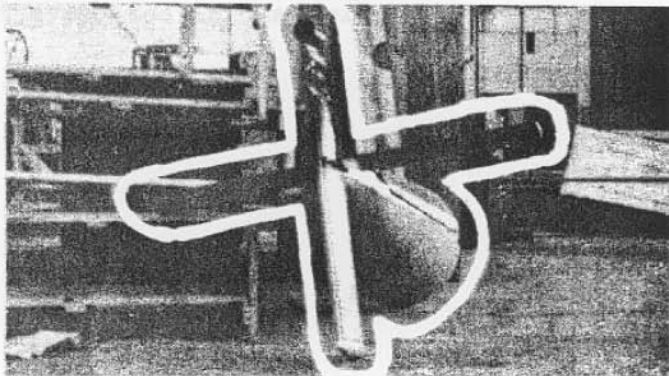
Photograph 4.
BV 246 Glider Bomb, Rear View showing First
Type of Tail Unit.



Photograph 5.

Second Type of BV246 Tail Unit, without
Large vertical Surfaces.

5.33. The third type has a single vertical surface 82 cm high and 37 cm wide placed behind the horizontal surface which has a lateral dimension of 120 cm and a fore-and-aft dimension of 25 cm. In this version, which was the latest type judging from the serial numbering, the pitch control surface is abandoned, the only control surface being a rudder flap on the vertical surface.



Photograph 6.

Third Type of BV246 Tail Unit.

5.4. The Control Unit. No example of the control unit was found, but it was clear from the construction of the bomb that it is housed in the front portion of the tail unit. It is connected with the control surfaces by rods and levers. There was no evidence from the bomb itself of any form of remote control, either by wire or radio.

RECOMMENDATIONS.

6.1 When the scientific personnel have been found they should be given prolonged interrogations by experts in their respective fields. It might be found in the light of the interrogations that further visits to the site by appropriate experts would be useful; but it is considered that at the moment little additional information could be gained by further visits because of the absence of documents.

6.2. Much valuable equipment, in particular the 6 kinetheodolites, remains at the site. Efforts should be made to have it evacuated in due course.

APPENDIX I.

List of Scientific personnel removed from
Erprobungsstelle Wesermünde on 13 May by JC Corps.

<u>No.</u>	<u>Surname</u>	<u>Forename</u>	<u>Rank.</u>
1	Adams	Raimund	Insp.(N)
2.	Arnhold	Georg	Fl.Ing.
3.	Dr.Balcarezyk	Leopold	Fl.St.Ing.
4.	Bork	Erich	Fl.Hpt.Ing.
5.	Bubbel	Rolf	Fl.St.Ing.
6.	Dr. Dantscher	Josef	Fl.Ob.St.Ing.
7.	Dechamps	Carl	Fl.Hpt.Ing.
8.	Dolezal	Rudolf	Reg.Werm.Rat.
9.	Drubig	Horst	Fl.St.Ing.
10	Francke	Otto	Fl.Hpt.Ing.
11	Fritz	Alfred	Fl.St.Ing.
12	Hadam	Wilhelm	Fl.Hpt.Ing.
13	Hammer	Friedrich	Fl.Ob.Ing.
14	Hickel	Hans	Fl.Ing.
15	Hübner	Herbert	Fl.Ing.
16.	Kaiser	Hans	Fl.St.Ing.
17.	Krahl	Alfred	Fl.Ing.
18.	Kruse	Willi	Fl.Hpt.Ing.
19.	Kunze	Friedel	Fl.Hpt.Ing.
20	May	Martin	Fl.Ing.
21	Mayer	Max	Fl.Hpt.Ing.
22	Müller	Erhard	Fl.St.Ing.
23	Müller	Hermann	Fl.Hpt.Ing.
24	Raske	Walter	Fl.Ob.Ing.
25	Rackenius	Gerd	Hpt.Flg.F.
26	Rasmussen	Hans	Fl.Hpt.Ing.
27	Dr. Rosen	Heinz	Fl.St.Ing.
28	Schell	Josef	Reg.Verm.Insp.
29	Scherl	Adalbert	Reg.Verm.Ass.
30	Dr. Spaeth	Artur	Fl.St.Ing.
31	Steinbacher	Erwin	Fl.St.Ing.
32	Stürwold	Ernst	Fl.St.Ing.
33	Ullmann	Hans	Fl.Hpt.Ing.
34	Viebahn	Eberhard	Fl.Ob.Ing.
35	Vogel	Otto	Fl.Ing.
36	Waas	Hans	Fl.Hpt.Ing.
37	Wagner	Hans	Fl.Hpt.Ing.
38	Wondratschek	Erich	Fl.Ob.St.Ing.
39	Zobel	Wilhelm	Insp (N)

APPENDIX II

List of Articles found at Erprobungsstelle Wesermünde

<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Description</u>
Approx. 10	Hs 293 rocket assisted, radio controlled, glider bombs; in badly burnt condition.
Approx. 5	Small radio transmitters with rotary converters, 6V to 2000 V for final anode voltage; badly burnt and damaged.
Approx. 10	X4 Wire controlled rockets in burnt condition.
3	Spools of wire for wire-controlled missiles.
3.	Bread-board models of controls of X4 (being sent to R.A.E.)
Approx. 10	BV.246 gliders bombs each in three containers: viz. warhead, wings, and tail (1 warhead, 1 pair wings, 2 tails, sent to R.A.E.)
Approx. 100	Small bombs, described in para. 4.2.
4 boxes	Weight-dropping parachutes, various patterns.
Approx. 60	Directional gyros fitted with solenoid release of caging (Kurskreisel 24V-136a Bauart SAM-LKU4, Anf. Z. F122561, Hersteller: Ziehl-Abegg G.m.b.H.)
Approx. 50	Distant-reading altimeters (Hohengeber Lhg3)
Approx. 50	Distant-reading thermometers (Anforderz. F120364)
Approx. 50	3-phase rotary converters for aircraft (Anforderz. F1 22420, F1 B820201, and F1 127-251A)
Approx. 50	Distant-reading pressure gauges (Druckgeber, Anforderz. F1 20574-10)
Approx. 20	Fuel consumption meters
Approx. 50	Pneumatic two-way actuators, some with potentiometer pick-off (Rudermaschine, Gerät Nr. 127-8401A-1)
1	Radio set (Tongeber TG25, Anforderz. Ln 28801)
1	Radio set marked FMS 50U (Fernmesssender?)
1	Radio set marked FMS 50Z (Fernmesssender?)
1	Radio set FuG E 28A
2	Radio sets FuG E 16ZY
3	Control wire spools for X4 rocket bombs.
2 sets	Each consisting of 3 kinetheodolites and associated control and communication equipment.
Approx. 10	Coordinate measuring microscopes for 35 mm film.
Approx. 10	Circular trigonometrical slide rules, diameter about 18".

QuantityDescription

1	Cylindrical trigonometrical slide rule, diameter about 10", length about 18".
2	Ju 88 aircraft fitted with a device for carrying flying bombs.
2	He 111 aircraft fitted with airlog propellers
1	Dismantled Pole Freya aerial
1	Mannheim radar equipment with several units missing.
3	Climatic testing chambers, with temperature and humidity control.
1	Large oxygen generator
Approx. 2	Oxygen storage tanks
1	Back pack oxygen apparatus (Heeres Atmen)
about 3	Large weighing machines
Approx. 5	Recording milliammeters
small stock	Synthetic rubber sheeting
stock	Chemical glassware
Approx. 20	Assorted voltmeters, ammeters and meggers, of robust construction and low accuracy.
1	Electrostatic voltmeter, 0-400 V
1	High frequency valve voltmeter (sent to T.R.E.)
1	Beat frequency oscillator (sent to T.R.E.)
1	Impedance bridge (sent to T.R.E.)
1	Frequency measuring device, 20 to 100,000 c/s (sent to T.R.E.)
1	Radio apparatus, marked E230, 124-120D 2, Ln 20083
	Telephonic testing gear
	Line testers
1	Adjustable low-pass filter, 1-26 mc/s
1	crude beat frequency oscillator
1	wavemeter, 20-80 mc/s (sent to T.R.E.)
1	Spectrophotometer (sent to R.A.E.)
1	Stereoscopic range finder, 1 meter base
1	Bubble sextant
1	Deviation meter for measuring small angular separations (sent to R.A.E.)
1	Optical bench with accessories
Assortment	Simple lenses
1	35 mm continuous processing machine
1	Lebric 16 mm sound cine printer with preset lighting controls
4	Steel film-drying drum, diameter about 5 ft.

QuantityDescription

1	Film-drying cabinet
1	5 ft. guillotine
2	Large presses
1	Power driven press
1	Large print dryer (like Lithotex dryer)
1	Air Camera (Reihenbildner 75/30)
1	16 mm camera gun in streamlined case (Carl Zeiss ESK 2000)
1	Assessing outfit, including projector, for above camera gun
2	16 mm instrumentation cine cameras by Zeiss-Ikon

APPENDIX III

List of Documents evacuated from Erprobungstelle
Wesermünde through T Force, British 2nd Army.

All documents of interest had been burnt. The record books of the **Bildstelle** Karlshagen (Photographic Section, Karlshagen) were discovered and evacuated as being of possible value during the interrogation of the personnel. These books are listed below.

Pass Numern (Pass Photograph Index from 7.11.44 to 9.3.45)

No Title (Order book from 29.11.43 to 2.1.45)

No Title (Order book from 2.1.45 to 10.3.45)

Auftrage Nr. 4124 -- (Negative record book from 29.7.44 to
9.3.45)

Auftrage an Bildstelle Nr.1 -- (Negative record Book from
2.1.45 to 6.4.45)