

## **September 1946**

### **Report on the Skoda Combine**

#### **Citation:**

"Report on the Skoda Combine", September 1946, Wilson Center Digital Archive, British Intelligence <https://wilson-center-digital-archive.dvincitest.com/document/209374>

#### **Summary:**

The report details the functions of and personnel at the Skoda Combine.

#### **Original Language:**

English

#### **Contents:**

Original Scan

SKODA COMBINE

Aktiengesellschaft, formerly  
Skoda - Werke.

in PILSEN Headquarters at Prague.

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President (of the Board of Directors and of the Executive Committee)

Dr. Wilhelm V O S S (G) Central Supreme Command in all field for the entire  
Combine.

General Manager:

Adolf V A M B E R S K Y (C) General central management, special research branch,  
research and development, he was formerly designer  
(Skoda-Locomotive and 42 cm howitzer.

Deputy General Manager:

P O K O R N Y (C) Commercial central management, mainly sales department.

Technical Chief:

Dr. P O H L (G) Supervised production of Skoda himself. All the other  
technical departments were worked in the first place  
by Vamberky.

Administrative Chief:

M O D R Y (C) Administration, accountancy and Personnel.

Other Chiefs:

S I V O R Y (C) Finances.

Freiherr von BODELSCHWING (G)  
Albert G O E R I N G (G)  
C O R D E M A N N (G) Expert

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Remarks: Behind the names there are letters which mean : G - German  
C - Czech.

SKODA COMBINE.The various fields of work.

- Pilsen Plant: iron and steel smelting works (including thermal refining of any kind) iron and steel foundry, forge squeezing machines, light metal foundry, engineering works, tools and gauges, ammunition for big guns, combustion time fuses, tanks (old Czech type as well as the so-called "Hetzer" - an anti-tank car), guns. (7.5 cm. 15 cm. 21 cm. 24 cm. 42 cm - in the beginning also Russian 30.5 cm. guns, then 5 cm. A.A., 8.8 cm A.A., 12 cm. A.A. various types of fortress guns. machine tools (also automatic tools) and machine plants of the largest sizes, such as hydraulic presses for armour plating in Russia - locomotives (the well known Skoda types and the German war time type BR 52), castings and forgings for large aggregates (especially for the Navy), engine-blocks for aircraft, etc.
- Pilsen-Doudlewitz Plant: Guns and electrotechnical articles.
- Prague-Smichow Plant: Machine tools, castings, ammunition, physical experimental station (later moved to Pribrams)
- Politchka plant: Ammunition research station and production.
- Bruenn plant: Electro-technical equipment
- Koeniggraetz Plant: Turbines, bridge-building, production of tanks.
- Koeniggraetz-Zaunfeld Plant: Light metal foundry for motor casings (a very modern large plant built during the war)
- Adamsthat Plant: Ammunition for big arms
- Jung-Bunzlau Plant (Asap): Lorries (Skoda-Diesel) cars, Radfahrzeug-Ost, production of tanks.
- Prague (Avia) Plant: Aero-engines of various types, besides old types of aircraft of the Czech Army and the well-known sports types, besides Russian bombers.
- Konstruktiva: a building firm for our own projects and for the projects of other firms. This firm has built many Skoda-plants abroad, especially in the near east.
- Plants of the Kable: (Independent A.G., participated with 50% with Skoda together with Reichspost) made cables.
- Krick plants: Electrotechnical apparatus, fuses.

Forschungsinstitut  
Pribrams:

Development and research.

Dubnica plant:

Various types of guns, in the first place the 15 cm howitzer and 8.8 cm A.A. ammunition for big guns as well as testing of ammunition. Very modern plant, which consists of a gun-factory with four floors underground and of several very large assembly halls above ground. As I heard it was partly blown up at the end of April 1945.

Resitza Plant:  
Romania.

Programme the same as in Pilsen.

Vistad Plant  
Jugoslavia.

Tools and ammunition.

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Omnipol A.G. Headquarters at Prague.

During the war this company built some plants in Bohemia for splitting mica. It was mainly an old, international trading Company with its Headquarters in Prague and branch- resp. subsidiary firms in Helsinki, Oslo, Stockholm, Kopenhagen, den Haag, Paris, Lisbon, Madrid, Zurich, Milan, Bratislava, Budapest, Bucarest, Belgrade, Sofia, Athens, Constantinople, etc. as well as in all larger towns of Africa, South America, and especially in the Near and Far East. The Omnipol had a very great international importance as - amongst other things - it signed officially and carried out inter-governmental foreign trade-contracts, such as between the Nordic states, Romania and Hungaria for example. One paid special attention to it because of several reasons. The same goes for the numerous branch-subsiidiary firms of the Skoda A.G. which were all over the world.



#### 4. Guns.

Special developments were under way in the field of transforming guns into automatic weapons, besides the well-known semi-automatic weapons, such as a twin - A.A. Gun with a calibre of 4 cm. and a 7.5 cm. semi-automatic anti-tank gun, which was highly efficient. The well-known 15, 21 and 24 cm. Skoda-guns were brought up to a bigger range (18 or 30 km.). Besides the old 42 cm howitzer was re-developed. Skoda has also special experiences in the field of mountain-artillery, based on years of supply to mountain-countries of the South-East. In this field various new developments were under way, such as a new multi-purpose field gun.

#### 5. Fuses.

Many developments, mainly in the field of the combustion time fuse.

#### 6. Turbines.

A very promising development of a turbine of smallest size was under way.

#### 7. Electro-physical research institute (Prague).

In this field a large number of the latest developments were under way, mainly in the field of detectors, measuring gears, remote control, etc.