

STONEHOUSE FACTORIES AS SEEN BY ENEMY EYES

ONE of the most striking news pictures to appear in the local Press in recent years was the German aerial reconnaissance photograph taken of the Sperry Gyros factories at Stonehouse, in February, 1943, and reproduced in the "Stroud News" in January, 1952. Hoffmann's are one of the firms in our special production.

The photograph below, appearing in the columns of a local paper, startled many people who had imagined that the Stroud district was largely outside the scope of enemy aircraft in the Second World War. Unhappily, should hostilities between this country and a major world power break out again, it is certain that local industries would be within easy range of enemy action.

It is curious to note that the German reconnaissance seemed to have imagined that the Sperry and Hoffmann factories were one and the same thing. The area contains both sets of buildings.

The thoroughness of the German espionage is demonstrated in the key to the plan, even down to the description of the roofs, which is given in every detail. (1) is the engine house, with its chimney, is situated; (2) is the workshop and factory building; (3) the stores; (4) the administration building; (5) - Foundry; (6) there is a misprint on the key, which gives two 5's—other buildings; (7) stores, outhouses and vehicle park; (8) private house; (9) assembly shop; (10) factory in course of erection; (11) line in course of erection; and (13) space for enlarging factory; (a) means electricity, high tension.

Stonehouse

Blindfluginstrumente, Sperry Gyroscope Co. Ltd.

Länge (westl. Greenw.): 2° 17' 50" Breite: 51° 44' 43"

Mißweisung: - 10° 57' (Mitte 1943) Zielhöhe über NN 30 m

Maßstab etwa 1: 9500



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|--|------|----------|---|------|------------|
| 1. Kraftanlage, massiv, Satteldächer, Schornstein | etwa | 100 qm | 9. Montagehalle, massiv, Sheddächer | etwa | 7 500 qm |
| 2. Werkstätten und Fabrikationsgebäude, massiv, verschiedene Dacharten | etwa | 4 700 qm | 10. Betriebs- und ansch. Verwaltungsgebäude im Bau | etwa | 1 500 qm |
| 3. Lager- und Betriebsgebäude, massiv, Satteldächer | etwa | 850 qm | 11. Baustelle ansch. für Rundbehälter | | |
| 4. Verwaltungsgebäude, massiv, Sattel- und Flachdach | etwa | 350 qm | 12. Rohr- oder Kabelleitung im Bau | | |
| 5. ansch. 4 Rundbehälter, ∅ etwa 2 m | | | 13. ansch. Baugelände für geplante, weitere Fabrikgebäude | | |
| 6. Nebengebäude, massiv, Satteldach | etwa | 200 qm | Bebaute Fläche | etwa | 16 350 qm |
| 7. Lagerschuppen, Baracken und Abstellplatz für Fahrzeuge | etwa | 1 000 qm | Gesamte Fläche | etwa | 125 000 qm |
| 8. Wohngebäude, massiv, Satteldach | etwa | 150 qm. | Gleisanschluß für Montagehalle (s. Ziff. 9) vorhanden | | |
| | | | a = Hochspannungsmaste | | |