

12 Ausfertigungen
6. Ausfertigung

An den Herrn
Reichsminister für Bew. und Mun.
TAF
d.Hr. Hptm. von Praum

Vorg. : Fernmeld. Rücksprache Hptm. V. Praum - Fl.St.Ing Leyß am 22.9.43.
Concerning. : Ofenrohr – production of weapon and ammunition

The Heereswaffenamt Wa Prüf II confirms the expected production figures that was communicated by the Chef Genst d H to the Pz.Offz. of the Chef Genst d H Oberstlt. v. Grundtherr in the consultation held on 12/08/43.

	September	October	November	December	January 44
Ofenrohr	500	5 000	25 000	40 000	50 000
Ammunition for Ofenrohr (live)	5 000	50 000	250 000	400 000	500 000

The reason given was:

- a) Production of the impact generator has been delayed with 2-3 weeks
- b) Production of the detonator not yet secured
- c) Sight has not been zeroed yet
- d) Mechanical firing still in testing
- e) Trials with low-temperature batteries postponed

To ensure continuity Hwa-Wa 11 proposes two immediate actions:

- 1) Priority must be given to Ofenrohr development and manufacturing.
The ammunition must be given priority over all other ammunition.
- 2) Issuance of special powers for development and production - Dir. J. O. Hoffmann, Dir. André u. Fl. St. Ing Leyß.

These proposals were discussed and implemented in a meeting in the Reichsmin. f. Bew. u. Mun. TAF on 11.8.43. The decisive aspects were as follows.

- a) Keep the new schedule, despite the ever-changing situation.
- b) Attempt to get a extended schedule.

There will be start-up problems for mass production as the first experimental ammunition did not work satisfactorily. As a result of this, a number of changes have to be made. Start and preliminary actual production of the commissioned 1500 Ofenrohr and 15,000 grenades is for the time being controlled by the Wa Prüf 11 and will be as follows:

	5.10.43	10.10.43	15.10.43	Remarks
Weapons	1 500			From N. Mn
Ammunition (live)	5 000	5 000	5 000	Töpehin (Transportation by plane)

It should be possible to return to the original production plan this way.

The cold climate tests that have been carried out with the first batch of ammunition makes it necessary to limit the usable temperature range for the first 15 000 grenades to -10 to +30 Celsius. This ammunition should be used for immediate education and special duties and must be under the supervision of specially trained instructors. The temperature range will be expanded for mass produced ammunition. In order to ensure initial safe functioning and to avoid possible early teething problems, this measure is considered necessary until sufficient documentation that can be used for further improvements is collected through larger trials and the first feedbacks from the units. Close cooperation between development and production in the initial period is inevitably necessary and must be flexibly managed to ensure that the required production is met.

By orders

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