

CLASSIFICATION SECRET

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

25X1

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY East Germany

DATE DISTR 16 July 1953

SUBJECT Ship Movements in Baltic Sea

NO. OF PAGES 4

25X1

PLACE ACQUIRED

NO. OF ENCLS. (LISTED BELOW)

DATE OF INFO.

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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1. [Redacted] an East Zone naval formation at target practice between 1000 and 1100 hours near Buoy 5 near Sassnitz. The formation was made up of a naval vessel of about 800 tons and four smaller vessels resembling torpedo boats. The formation was in line astern and under the direction of the larger vessel. They fired from the sea at the steep coast near Kolikeort. The machine guns and anti-aircraft fired at the chalk cliffs which splintered and powdered into dust upon being hit. The forward weapon (estimated to have been of 8.8 cm calibre) shot into the water before the shore line. High columns of water were seen rising where the shells had fallen in the water but no targets were observed. A small motorboat followed the formation apparently as an observation vessel. It was about 20 meters long. All the ships carried the black, red, and yellow flag on the stern.
2. The landing boat was probably named the "Ernst Thaelmann" although the surname could not be seen clearly. A weapon of about 8.8 cm calibre was on the very high forecandle. One four-barrelled anti-aircraft weapon was on either side just below the stack. A smaller anti-aircraft weapon was on the afterdeck.\* (See sketch #1.)
3. The four small vessels resembling torpedo boats were about 40-50 meters long. Their designation was not visible. An anti-aircraft weapon was mounted fore and aft in addition to several machine guns. (See sketch #2.)
4. Searchlight exercises against aircraft were observed near Swinemuende on 9 April between 2000 and 2100 hours. On 10 April in the morning between 0700 and 0800 hours, two jets were observed flying at rather high altitude. They were coming from the direction of Ruegen and flying towards Swinemuende. On 11 April 1953 from 1330 until 1400 hours, aircraft maneuvers of two planes were observed between Sassnitz and Dornholm. The planes departed in the direction of Ruegen.
5. Training courses for younger students for Licenses A2 and B2 are now taking place at the navigation school in Kustrow near Warnemuende.

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SECRET [redacted]

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[redacted]  
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25X1 6. The Poles are no longer insisting that foreign vessels observe the twelve mile limit off the Polish shore. Whereas recently [redacted] fish cutters found within the twelve-mile limit were ruthlessly captured, now they are able to travel within this area without hindrance. One can also anchor near the Polish coast without difficulties now. [redacted] 25X1

25X1 7. Between forty and fifty [redacted] fish cutters are said to be fishing undisturbed in the Bay of Danzig and to be able to enter Polish ports without experiencing difficulties.

8. German cutters have approached within one and one-half miles of the Polish coast recently without being molested.

9. On 22 April at 1500 hours, a Russian naval vessel was seen leaving Swinemunde with a MW course. It had a former German naval ferry barge (Faehrpralm) in tow. The Russian vessel carried the number "151" on its bow. There were two anti-aircraft weapons each fore and aft. The lead ship flew a commandant's pennant and both vessels flew the Soviet flag. The naval ferry barge had an anti-aircraft weapon directly in front of the bridge which was located extremely far aft. (See Sketch #3).

10. On 23 April between 1100 and 1330 hours a lugger which had been rebuilt as a tanker was observed on a course between Swinemunde and the Greifswalder Oie. It flew the black, red, and yellow flag. At the same time a Russian tug towed a heavily laden lighter with a course east from Swinemunde.

25X1 11. At 1600 hours on the same day, an East Zone guard vessel: [redacted] left Swinemunde with a MW course. The boat ran at a speed of at least 16 sea miles. It was painted a medium shade of grey\*\* (See Sketch #4.). 25X1

12. On 2 May, Source observed a torpedo boat formation of seven boats in line SW of Stubbenkammer. The formation was following a SW course. The boats were all of the same type (one stack).

25X1 13. [redacted] a formation of four minesweepers entering Rismar harbor at 1330 hours. [redacted] About five men with white caps, apparently officers, were on the bridge deck. The crew consisted of about 15 men. (See Sketch #5.) 25X1

25X1 [redacted] Comment: Possibly a flight control boat. (Flugsicherungsboot).  
[redacted] Comment: Russian type mine layer.

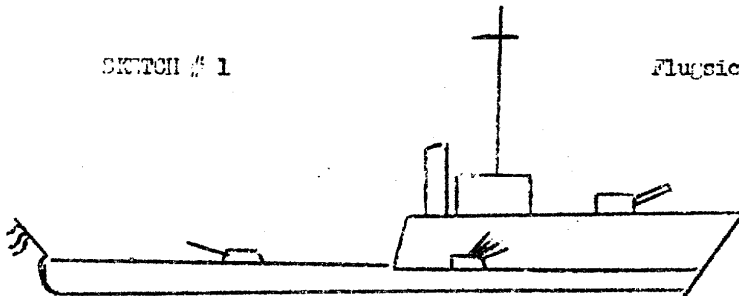
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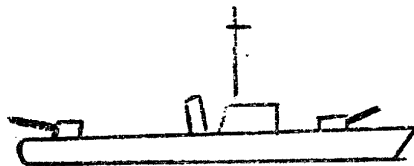
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SKETCH # 1

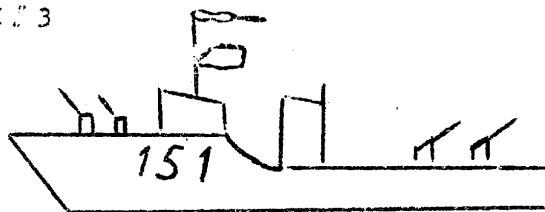
Flugsicherungs Schiff



SKETCH # 2

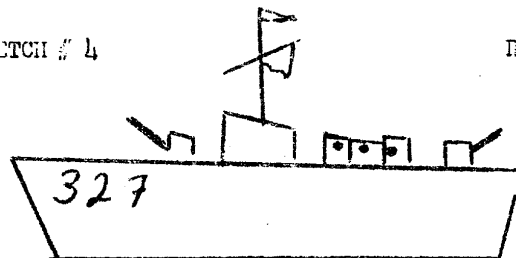


SKETCH # 3



SKETCH # 4

Russian type R-boat

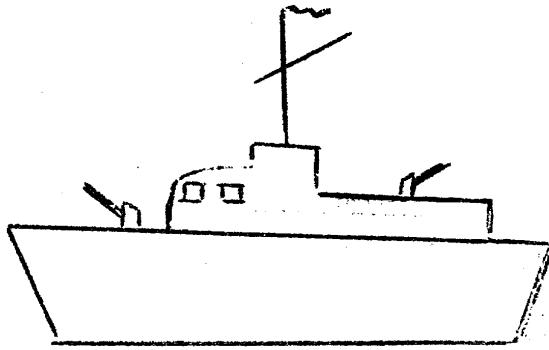


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Attachment

SKETCH # 5



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