

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	China/Macao	REPORT NO.	[REDACTED]
SUBJECT	Chinese Communist Documentation of Ships' Crews and Fishermen for Overseas Ports.	DATE DISTR.	17 August 1953
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THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.

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THE APPRAISAL IS TENTATIVE.
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1. In early January 1953 documentation of the crews of ships sailing between Communist China and overseas ports included the following:
 - a. Census registration in a Chinese city or village,
 - b. Certificate of membership in the Seamens' Union, Canton,
 - c. Seaman's identity card issued by the Canton Harbor Office,
 - d. Guarantee certificate issued by the transport company concerned, certifying the good conduct of the individual
 - e. Graduation testimonial certifying completion of a one-month mass indoctrination program conducted at Canton¹.
2. Between Macao and Canton, transport companies which owned ships making the Macao-Canton run were responsible for the good conduct of each member of the ships' crews. Crew members were organizing groups to observe and identify to communist authorities unauthorized conduct among their own men. No crew member was permitted to remain at Macao after his ship sailed from Macao for Canton. Crews were permitted to leave the ship when the ship was anchored at Communist China ports or Communist China anchoring stations.² In 1952 the CHIN HAI (6855/3189), a Canton-Macao ferry, was detained for questioning by Chinese Communist officials for more than one month after a member of the ferry crew left the ship at Macao.

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3. In early 1953 fishermen were required to possess only two documentation forms: papers certifying the business relationships between the fishermen and firms, principally shops of fish-dealers, in mainland cities; and registration papers of the Fishermen's Association in the particular mainland city where the individual transacted his business.³
4. Examination of Fishermen crossing the border was not as rigid as examination of the crews of vessels or of persons travelling for business or family reasons. The examination station looked at the papers and counted the crew who were listed on the registration papers. No photographs of fishermen were attached to the registration papers.

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1. [REDACTED] Comment. This mass indoctrination program at Canton was started in the summer of 1950.

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2. [REDACTED] Comment. According to [REDACTED] [REDACTED] all seamen coming in to North China ports in the summer of 1952 were required to obtain shore passes issued by the local public security offices before going ashore.

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3. [REDACTED] Comment. According to the 3 December 1952 Hua Ch'iao Jih Pao, Communist authorities on 25 November promulgated a new set of regulations for the control of fishermen in Kwangtung. These regulations contained the following articles:

- a. All fishermen and their dependents must be registered with their fishermen's associations.
- b. Movement of fishermen and their junks were forbidden during registration.
- c. Unregistered fishing junks and fishermen were forbidden to go out to sea. Those going without permission would be fired on.
- d. Fishing certificates were issued after registration.
- e. Before any fisherman and his junk could go to sea, he had to find a shop guarantor and obtain the joint guarantee of ten other fishing junks. The maximum time allowed for each trip was fifteen days.
- f. Registered fishermen of either sex above the age of 13 were required to report once every day to their respective fishermen's association (when not out fishing).
- g. Fishermen between the ages of 18 and 35 were forbidden to travel to other areas.

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[REDACTED] Comment. For other reports on the control and documentation of fishermen in the Kwangtung area in November and December 1952, see [REDACTED]

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