

CLASSIFICATION **S-E-C-R-E-T**

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**CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
INFORMATION REPORT**

REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY **East Germany**

DATE DISTR. **13 April 1955**

SUBJECT **New East German Merchant Ship M/S STRALSUND**

NO. OF PAGES **1**

PLACE ACQUIRED

NO. OF ENCLS. listed below

DATE OF INFO.

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

25X1

**THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION**

25X1

1. On 3 December 1954, the M/S STRALSUND was seen proceeding from Wismar in the direction of Warnemuende. The M/S STRALSUND, apparently a new construction of about 1,00 GRT, had her bridge amidships and carried some life rafts on her hatches. About 20 persons were seen amidships on the bridge, and another 15 to 20 persons were seen near the stern. Some of them wore hats and almost all of them carried binoculars. It appeared that the ship was on her shakedown or acceptance run.

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the ship had a bad reputation in East German shipping circles because she had developed engine trouble on her first two shakedown runs, and that large-scale-repairs had been necessary. The propulsion plant allegedly proved so defective, also on her third trial run, that it was rumored in the yard that the entire plant had to be exchanged.

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2. On 5 January 1955, the M/S STRALSUND, registered in East Germany, passed the Kiel Canal for the first time. Her characteristics were stated to be as follows: Tonnage 1,100 gross, 436 net, signal letters DHWE, port of registry Rostock, owners VEB Deutsche Seereederei, Rostock (German Nationalized Sea Shipping Company), deadweight capacity 1,445 tons, speed 11 knots, name of shipmaster Zeuch (fnu), when she passed Holtenau on 5 January 1955 on her way from Wismar to Middlesborough. She was drawing 4.7 meters and carried 1,190 tons of potash

Comment. M/S STRALSUND was the first type-I freighter built by the Mathias Thesen Werft (shipyard) in Wismar. No other ships of this type will be built.

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STATE	NAVY	NSA	NSA	DISTRIBUTION						
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