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COUNTRY Poland

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SUBJECT Polish Naval Ranks, Uniforms, and Insignia

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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Officers Ranks

50X1 1. Until June 1951 the highest Naval officer's rank was Rear Admiral (Kontr-Admiral), but about a year later [] Rear Admiral CZERAKOW was promoted to Vice Admiral in the Polish Naval Staff in Gdynia. The Minister of National Defense, however, acting as Marshal of the Polish Army, also held a rank equalling the US rank of Admiral of the Fleet.

50X1 [See [] officers' rank insignia.]

In descending order, the Naval officers' ranks were as follows:

- a. Flag Officers: Admiral, Vice-Admiral, Rear-Admiral.
- b. Field Grade Officers: Commander (Komandor); Lt. Commander, Sr. Grade (Komandor Porucznik); Lt. Commander, Jr. Grade (Komandor Podporucznik).
- c. Lieutenants: Lieutenant (Kapitan); Lieutenant (jg) (Porucznik); Ensign (Podporucznik).
- d. Warrant: Warrant Officer (Chorazy).

Enlisted Personnel

2. In descending order, the Petty Officers' ranks were as follows: [See Memory Sketch 2 for Enlisted Men's Rank Insignia.]

- a. Chief Petty Officer (Starszy Bosman).

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- b. Petty Officer 1st Class (Bosman)
- c. Petty Officer, 2nd Class (Bosman Mat).
- d. Petty Officer, 3rd Class (Mat).
- e. Senior Seaman (Starszy Marynarz).
- f. Seaman (Marynarz).
- g. Recruit (Rekrut).

Officers' Uniforms

3. The uniforms described below were worn by Polish Naval personnel since 1952. Before that time, the uniforms were essentially the same, with only minor differences.
- a. Generally, the officers wore semi-dress uniforms of a wool material, navy blue in color, with gold sleeve stripes and shoulder boards. The overcoats were of the same cloth and had shoulder boards only. During the summer, white standard service uniforms with shoulder boards were worn. As part of the summer uniform, a white cap with a cap insignia was worn. The cap insignia consisted of a cluster of golden leaves surrounding a Polish eagle of silver with a gold anchor behind it. The winter cap was the blue visor cap. See Sketch 1.

Enlisted Men's Uniforms

4. The Chief Petty Officer and the Petty Officer 1st Class wore jackets similar in cut, color, and material to those of the officers'. They also wore the navy blue overcoat with shoulder boards, and the officers' blue visor cap with officers' cap insignia but without clusters.
- a. The 2nd and 3rd Class Petty Officers who were career Navy wore officers' blouses, and the uniform in general was similar to that of officers. They also wore the visor caps but without officers' clusters. They wore shoulder boards on their blouses as well as on their overcoats.
 - b. Second and Third Class Petty Officers who were not career Navy were not issued officers' type blouses, but were issued the conventional navy blue pull-over blouse type uniform. They wore the flat sailor hat with cap band. The cap band was cut short at the rear of the hat as was the custom to indicate the non-existence of a full admiral. The hat band had a gold inscription reading Marynarka Wojenna (Navy). Before 1952, the blouse was worn loosely over the belt of the trousers. In 1952, however, this was changed so that the blouse was worn tucked into the trousers. A navy blue pea jacket with gold anchor buttons was worn in winter. Rank insignia from Petty Officer 1st Class down to seaman was worn on the lower part of the left sleeve only. The Chief Petty Officers wore rank insignias on the upper part of both sleeves.
 - c. Uniforms for Petty Officer, 3rd Class and for Seamen were similar to uniforms worn by 2nd and 3rd Class Petty Officers who were not career Navy. The Seamen (Marynarz) wore no rank insignia at all.
5. Soviet enlisted men's uniforms differed from the Polish enlisted men's uniforms in the following respects: Soviet sailors wore blouses outside and over their belts. The white stripes on the collar of the Soviet blouse were narrower than those on a Polish blouse; these stripes were also part of the material and not separately sewn on as on Polish

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blouses. The Polish sailor had a single blue stripe running across the top of his skivvy shirt, whereas the Soviet skivvy was of blue and white stripes. Soviet sailor caps had a ribbon streaming from the back; there was no such streamer on the Polish sailor cap.

Specialty Insignia

6. Specialty insignia could be worn by all ranks including officers. However, the officers rarely wore specialty insignia. The insignia was made of yellow embroidery and showed various designs referring to the respective specialty. They were worn on the left upper sleeve of jackets, blouses, and pea jackets. /See Sketch 3 for sketches of insignia./
7. Knotted around the necktie was a necktie band. This band was worn by all ranks below Chief Petty Officer. These were string-type bands and were of various colors. The color indicated the following specialities:
 - a. White -- Trainee at a school for sea specialists.
 - b. Yellow -- Worn by members of the Guard Company. Also worn by Petty Officer instructors (Mat Kadrowy).
 - c. Red -- Worn by members of artillery units.
 - d. Light Blue -- Communications.
 - e. Black -- Worn by those who were assigned to sea duty, regardless of specialty.

Annexes:

Sketch 1 of Naval Officers Rank Insignia

Sketch 2 of Naval Enlisted Personnel Rank Insignia

Sketch 3 of Specialty Insignia

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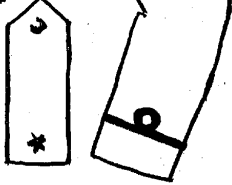
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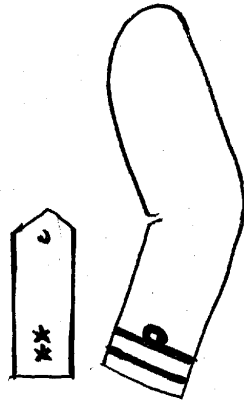
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Sketch 1. Naval Officers' Rank Insignia

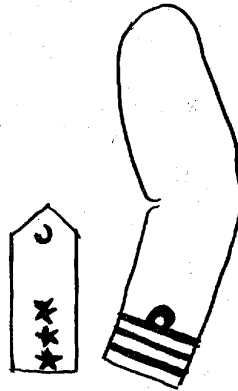
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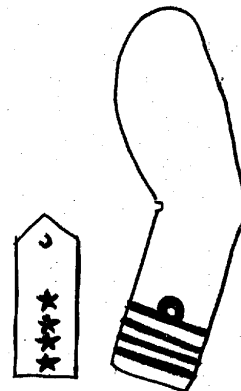
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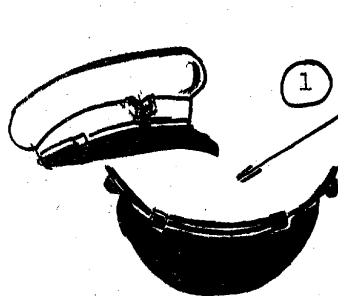
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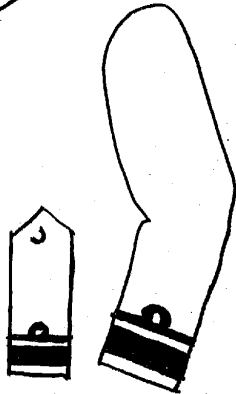
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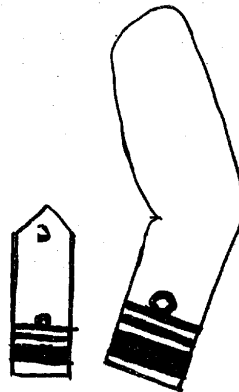
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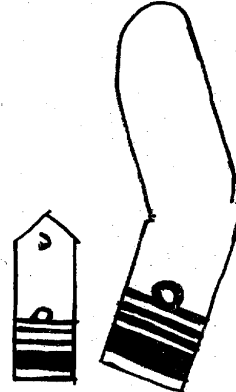
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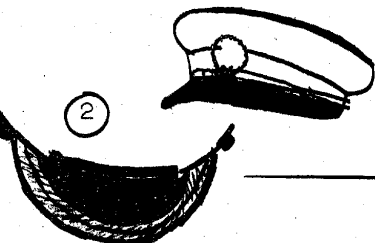
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KOMANDOR PORUCZNIK



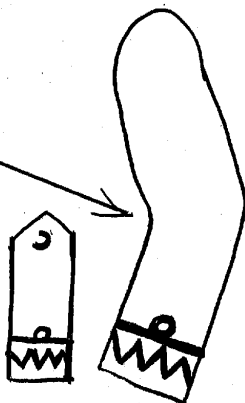
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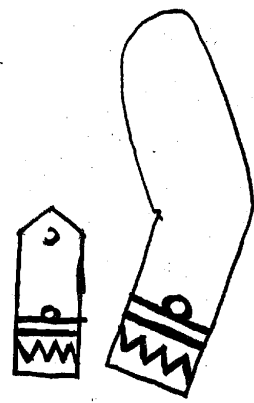
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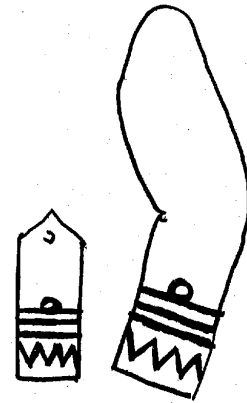
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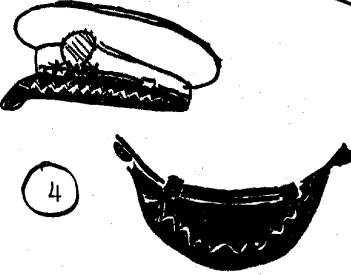
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WICE ADMIRAL



ADMIRAL



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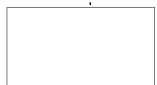
Sketch 1, Naval Officers' Rank Insignia (Cont'd)

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1. Visor insignia, sleeve stripes, and shoulder boards of Lieutenants.
2. Visor insignia, sleeve stripes, and shoulder boards for Field Grade Officers.
3. Visor insignia, sleeve stripes, and shoulder boards for Flag Officers.
4. Visor for Ministry of National Defense.
5. Officer's cap insignia.

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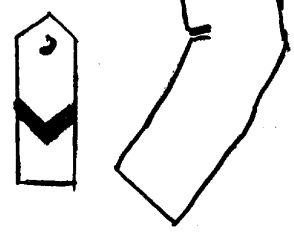
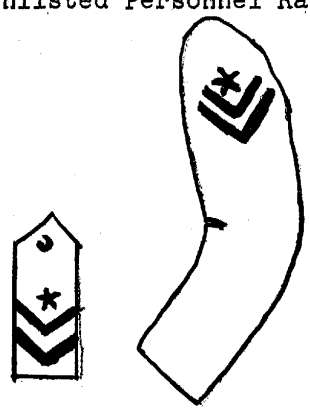
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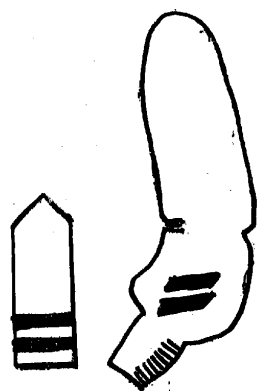
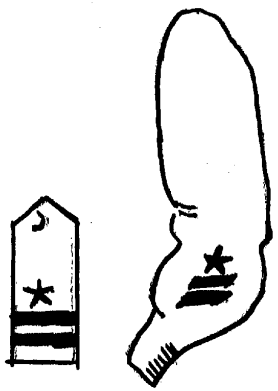
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Sketch 2: Enlisted Personnel Rank Insignia

1



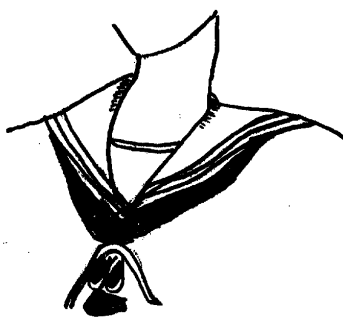
2



3



4



LEGEND

- 1. Sleeve insignia and shoulder boards for Chief Petty Officer ratings.
- 2. Sleeve insignia and shoulder boards for Petty Officer ratings.
- 3. Sleeve insignia for Senior Seaman.
- 4. Necktie Band.

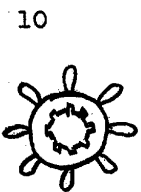
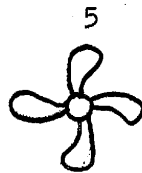
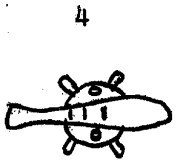
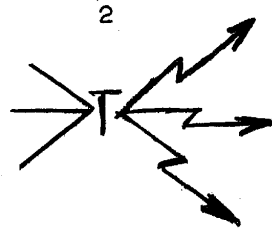
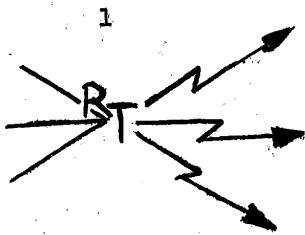
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Sketch 3: Specialty Insignia



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Sketch 3, Specialty Insignia (Cont'd)

LEGEND

1. Radioman (Radiotelegrafista)
2. Telephone and Teletype Operator (Telefonista)
3. Electrician (Elektryk)
4. Torpedoes and Mines (Torpedy i Miny)
5. Machinist; Diesel and Gasoline (Maszynista)
6. Mine Laying and Sweeping (Miny Podwodne)
7. Machinist; Steam Engines (Maszynista)
8. Gunner (Artylerzysty)
9. Undersea Diver (Nurek Glebinowy)
10. Helmsman (Sternik)
11. Hydrographer (Hydrografista)
12. Signalmán (Signalista)
13. Yeoman (Administracyjny)
14. Pharmacist Mate (Sanitariusz)
15. Naval Guard Company (Kompania Wartownicza).

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