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INFORMATION REPORT

SECRET

CD NO.

COUNTRY Poland

CONFIDENTIAL

DATE DISTR. 12 MAY 1949

SUBJECT The Fort of Kolobrzeg (Kolberg)

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PLACE

NO. OF ENCLS.

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*SOURCE

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Late June 1948

The approach channel to Kolobrzeg (M14) is well buoyed to a distance of 12 miles from the port. This fairway has a maximum depth of 19 feet and a breadth of 400 to 500 meters. All ships entering the port must take pilots and are not allowed in or out after dark.

17-27 December 1948

- Between 17 and 27 December 1948 there were no naval craft in or near Kolobrzeg.
- Between these dates there were three small merchant ships in the river all loading coal; two of them were Swedish two-masted schooners, and the other a three-masted Danish vessel of about 250 tons. The crews were not allowed achore, and a Polish naval sentry was placed on the gangway.
- No dredging has been done at Kolobrzeg since 1943, but the Polish administration intends to enlarge the port and build a breakeater extending 200 neters outwards from both sides of the entrance. Because of the shortage of labor, work is not scheduled to begin until 1950, but the cutting of stone blocks has already started.
- Grain stores and elevators were destroyed during the war, but reconstruction has now begun and is expected to be completed by 1950,
- There is only one 3-ton crane available and one 150 HP tug. Coal isloaded 6. from railroad cars by means of conveyor belts.
- The only troops stationed in Kolobrzeg are 50 to 75 Polish naval ratings under the command of a naval lieutenant. There are no Russians, either civilian or military, in Kolobrzeg.
- The population of Kolobrzeg, where no buildings have as yet been repaired or constructed since the var, now numbers about 5,000 as against 40,000 in prewar years.

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