

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Poland

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SUBJECT Russian Influence in Polish Navy

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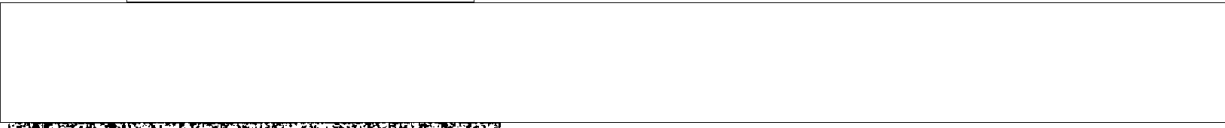
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1. Shortly after Marshal Rokossowski took over the command of the Polish Armed Forces, the Russian influence was noticed immediately by personnel of the Polish Navy. About 60 per cent of the technicians in the Gdynia navy yards were replaced by Russians. The regular Polish naval officers who were replaced were either purged and have disappeared or were sent to the Warsaw Navy Headquarters where they could be more closely controlled.
2. The present Polish Navy consists of three submarines, one destroyer, twelve corvettes, and some small auxiliary ships. The present employment of Russian personnel is as follows:
 - a. ORP Sep (Orzel type submarine). About one-third of the officers, all petty officers, all yeomen of the communications section, and approximately 30 per cent of the crew are Russians.
 - b. ORP Rys (Wilk type submarine). The captain and 10 percent of the officers, 90 percent of the petty officers, and 20 per cent of the crew are Russians.
 - c. ORP Zbik (Wilk type submarine). The captain and one junior officer and 20 per cent of the crew are Russians.
 - d. ORP Blyskawica (destroyer-cruiser). The captain's assistant, three artillery pet officers, all signalmen, and approximately 30 per cent of the crew are Russians.
 - e. The flotilla of twelve corvettes has Russian engineers, with captains and crews remaining Polish at present.
3. All officer candidates at the Polish Naval Officers' School are either members of the United Polish Workers' Party (PZPR) or are Russians.
4. Despite the fact that Russians dominate the command functions of the Polish Fleet, a well-organized control system over Polish personnel is maintained by well-armed units of the Urzad Bezpieczenstwa (UB) Maritime Troops stationed at Oksywie which is the pre-war naval base about 20 kms from Gdynia.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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5. Regular Polish officers and petty officers had hoped to retain their positions because of the announcement that the Polish Fleet would be enlarged by several new destroyers and submarines and they believed that they would be needed because of the lack of trained personnel. Their morale is low now, however, because of the tremendous infiltration of Russian personnel and the non-delivery of new vessels.

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