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SECURITY INFORMATION

FLD 297

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT NO. [redacted] 25X1

CD NO.

COUNTRY East Germany

DATE DISTR. 4 September 1953

SUBJECT The Navigation School at Wustrow

NO. OF PAGES 3

PLACE ACQUIRED [redacted]

NO. OF ENCLS. (LISTED BELOW) 25X1

DATE OF INFO.

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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1. Wustrow lies within the restricted area along the Baltic coast. The former German coastal battery near Altnagen blocking the Ujedser narrows has been rebuilt. It is not known whether weapons have been installed. During the

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2. The navigation school is located in an old school building on the land between the Saaler Bodden and the Baltic. The students live with private families. The establishment of a boarding school is being considered, either in the Strand Hotel, which would be requisitioned, or in a building which would be constructed for the purpose. No military exercises or weapons training are connected with the school. Most of the students are candidates for the Merchant Marine Certificate. A small number of the students are being trained in special classes for naval service with the Sea Police. The Sea Police officers who were to be put in charge of the six former German minesweepers (R-Boots), which the Russians delivered to the Sea Police, completed the course in the required time. 1/

3. The courses are the usual ones given in a navigation school, with the addition of a course in Marx-Lenin social-political teachings. No one who fails in this course can expect to graduate. They are accused of having a negative attitude toward Communism. There is supposed to be a special navigation school for Sea Police at Parow near Stralsund.

4. Attendance at the navigation school in Wustrow is encouraged by propaganda. There is a shortage of licensees for the merchant marine and deep sea fishing. Before candidates can be accepted as students for Certificates A 5 and [illegible] and probably also for lesser certificates, they must belong to one of the Communist mass organizations such as the FDGB or Society for German-Soviet Friendship. Membership in the SED is considered desirable. In practice it is not easy for a non-party member to get the certificate. There were no non-SED party member students in the source's course. These were pilots who could not be dropped, since they had already been assigned to the pilot service and were needed. The great majority of the teaching staff and the

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students are actually not Communist-oriented. There are few convinced Communists in the school. Most students go along with the political requirements merely in order to receive their certificates.

5. The demonstration devices are exclusively western products. There are apparatuses for teaching radar, the latest radio direction finders, and gyrocompasses on hand.

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1/ [redacted] COMMENT: These six vessels were built in the V.S. Warnowwerft (Kroeger Werft), Warnemuende. 25X1

2/ [redacted] ILLEGIB

3/ [redacted] ILLEGIB

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