

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY	USSR (Leningrad Oblast)	REPORT	
SUBJECT	1. Port of Leningrad 2. Midget Submarines	DATE DISTR.	13 October 1955 25X1
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This is UNEVALUATED Information

SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

- On 5 May 1955, there was solid ice about one foot thick in the area from Tolbukhin to the east end of Kronshtadt. From there on into the Morskoy Canal, the ice cover decreased gradually. The pilot boarded [redacted] vessel from a tanker which lay in the position of the Leningrad lightship.
- On that day a convoy, including, among other ships, five Soviet merchant vessels assisted by a icebreaker and a tanker, arrived in Leningrad. One of the merchant vessels was the Liberty ship SS KIROV; the other four were 2,000 to 5,000 DWE. 25X1
- On 6 May, a Soviet auxiliary vessel of about 8,000 DWT, painted gray, with one funnel, left its anchorage in the basin between the grain quay and the Levaya Damba and followed a medium sized, two funneled icebreaker out the Morskoy Canal. This auxiliary had formerly been a passenger vessel. 25X1
- During the passage into Leningrad on 8 May 1955, a small inspection vessel came out from Hogland, circled [redacted] ship and returned. It was about 90 feet long, with a gun on the foredeck [redacted] 25X1
- On 8 May, there was scattered drifting ice in the area from Sommars eastward. About two miles west of the position for the Leningrad lightship was a belt of heavy pack ice about two miles wide. It could not have been penetrated by ordinary merchant vessels. A tug was attempting, with little success, to assist vessels stuck in the ice. On the following morning the ice condition had improved considerably and on the morning of 10 May only scattered ice floes were to be seen. On the 8th, two Soviet merchant vessels had been fast in the ice about two nautical miles southwest of the Leningrad lightship position. On the morning of the 9th, they entered Leningrad via the Morskoy Canal. On 10 May, the Leningrad lightship had not yet been stationed. A tug with pilots aboard was in the position of the lightship. 25X1
- On 9 May, the OKTYABRSKAYA REVOLYUTSIYA was in the harbor basin at Kronshtadt. 25X1

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(Note: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution by "#")

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7. On 11 May, these waters were quite free of ice and preparations were being made for the stationing of the Leningrad lightship which was, indeed, accomplished on the following day.

8. On 16 May, at about 0730 hours, near the large dry dock inside the moles at Kronshtadt, there were two large naval vessels, each of which had two masts around which scaffolding had been constructed. [redacted]. There were no ships in the large dry dock. In the west harbor basin there was a large warship similar to the two under repair in the shipyard. [redacted] In the same basin lay six naval vessels of medium size. They were anchored side by side and moored by the stern. Farther in the basin, there were at least eight submarines. The OKTYAERSKAYA REVOLYUTSIYA was moored to a buoy near the Leningrad lightship, which was on station.

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9. At about 1500 hours GMT on 16 May, six medium sized warships were near the Estonian coast about ten nautical miles west of Hogland. They were underway on varying east and west courses at varying speeds, practising the laying of smoke screens. They were only occasionally visible.

10. [redacted]

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11. In the afternoon on 26 May, a submarine passed out the Morskoy Canal and two warships entered the port. The same evening, at about 2300 hours GMT, four or five medium sized naval vessels were in the basin at Kronshtadt. Two of them were anchored and moored stern to the mole and two or three of them were anchored farther in the harbor. The OKTYAERSKAYA REVOLYUTSIYA still lay moored to a buoy outside the harbor.

12. At 0530 hours GMT on the following day, in a position about three nautical miles west of Seskar (N 60-01, E 28-22), nine medium sized warships were proceeding in line ahead formation on a course for Leningrad at a speed of at least 25 knots. They were all alike; about 270 to 290 feet long, with one gun mount with an unknown number of guns on the foredeck, and two funnels, the forward one being decidedly raked. On the same day, 27 May, at about 1130 hours GMT, three vessels just like the ones observed at Seskar were sighted about three nautical miles south of Hogland. They had been in a line ahead formation at a speed of about 16 or 18 knots but they altered course and approached [redacted]

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[redacted] ship in echelon formation. About one-half nautical mile from [redacted] ship they suddenly altered course 150 to 160 degrees to the left and disappeared on a southerly course. [redacted] his vessel had been the target in a simulated attack.

13. At about 1600 hours GMT on 27 May, in a position about four nautical miles west-southwest of Kalbod Shallows light (N 59-58, E 25-37), there was a convoy consisting of two medium sized warships, and eight or nine motor trawlers each towing a "midget" submarine, and a tug towing two of the "midget" submarines. The convoy was in formation consisting of two lines on an easterly course at a speed of about seven to eight knots. The warships were 250 to 300 feet long, with two funnels. They were similar to those observed near Seskar. The trawlers were 130 to 140 feet long and were painted dark grey. [redacted]

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[redacted] The same type of trawler had been observed in Oeresund and in the North Sea. The "midget" submarines, of which there were 10 or 12, were all alike, except that no conning tower was observed on one of those towed by the tug. They were 50 to 60 feet long, i.e., one-third to one-half the length of the trawlers. The conning tower was placed in about the middle of the hull and had a tube or short mast at the forward edge. They were painted dark grey [redacted] All of them rode strikingly high in the water, i.e., about half of the hull was visible above water. No personnel were seen aboard the submarines (see sketch).

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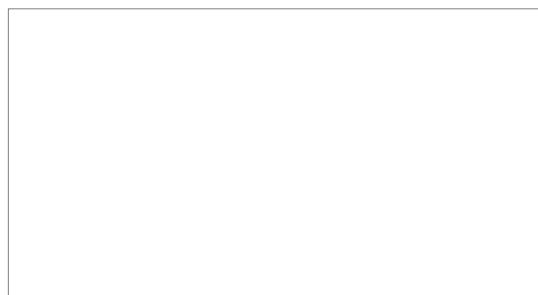
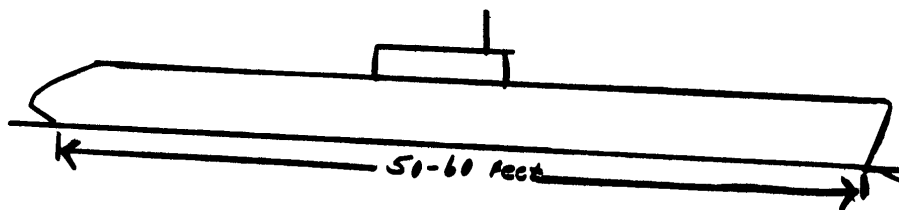
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Sketch of "Midget" Submarine



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