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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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1. During the night from 1 to 2 April 1954, naval exercises took place to the north of, but close to, the harbor of Sassnitz. Taking part in the exercises were three Soviet submarine chasers and three East German trawlers. The submarine chasers fired at targets out at sea, and the trawlers swept mines. No further observations were possible due to darkness.
2. The following vessels were observed in Sassnitz harbor on 2 and 3 April:
 - a. Six old Soviet torpedo boats, each about 40 meters long and equipped with two torpedo tubes amidships. these boats probably were former German vessels which were to be turned over to the East German navy.
 - b. Three new Soviet torpedo cutters, each with a radar installation on the foredeck.
 - c. A large, old East German trawler of about 400-500 gross tons, which was not armed and was probably used to quarter seamen.
3. The following vessels were observed in Sassnitz harbor on 16 April:
 - a. Five Soviet torpedo cutters.
 - b. Three late-model submarine chasers.
 - c. Two East German patrol vessels, each armed with one anti-aircraft gun of about 25-mm caliber which was located on the foredeck near the captain's bridge, and two anti-aircraft guns of the same caliber located amidships and aft of the captain's bridge. One vessel, the FRITZ THAELMANN (sic), was considerably larger than the other; the name of the second vessel was obscured by the FRITZ THAELMANN and could not be read.

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