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## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

## INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	Poland	REPORT	
SUBJECT	Friction Between Polish and Soviet Seamen	DATE DISTR.	30 July 1954
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1. [redacted] feeling of discontent exists in Gdynia, among the Polish seamen. The cause of this is the fact that Soviet seamen are effecting large purchases in the Polish store "Baltonia" in Gdynia. This store was specifically designed for the sale of merchandise to Polish seamen. Payment is supposed to be made in American dollars. (Polish seamen receive part of their pay in this currency). The goods offered are usually of very good quality. Soviet seamen have obtained authorization to purchase goods in this store, on an equal basis, except that payment is to be in rubles, which has the effect of making the merchandise ridiculously cheap. This situation had led to friction between the Soviet and Polish seamen. The Polish seamen feel aggrieved and have protested through their union. The authorities are anxiously concealing this situation, since they fear that it may ~~may~~ become a matter for gossip.
2. The same situation exists in Szczecin.

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