

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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S-E-C-R-E-T

50X1-HUM

COUNTRY	USSR (Baltic)	REPORT	
SUBJECT	1. Oil Shipments from Klaipeda 2. Port Information, Naval Vessel Sightings, and Navigational Aids at Kronshtadt, Leningrad, Klaipeda, Ventspils, and in the Baltic Sea	DATE DISTR.	29 January 1960
		NO. PAGES	2
			50X1-HUM

DATE OF INFO.
PLACE & DATE ACQ

SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE. 50X1-HUM

reports of future oil shipments from Klaipeda, and port information, naval vessel sightings, and navigational aids at Kronshtadt, Leningrad, Klaipeda, Ventspils, and the Baltic Sea area

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Att.No. Subject

- | | | |
|---|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| 1 | A brief one-page report about Soviet inquiries for Western shipping, mainly tankers up to 23 feet draft, from Klaipeda during spring 1960; new construction and modernization at Klaipeda; and the possibility that Klaipeda may be used primarily for exports from the Soviet Baltic to East Germany, while another port may be used for Soviet Baltic oil shipments | 50X1-HUM |
| 2 | A brief one-page report of a restricted area near Ventspils | |
- A sketch of towers and masts sighted on shore south of Ventspils is included.

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STATE	X	ARMY	#X	NAVY	#X	AIR	#X	NSA	X	FBI	N	C	X
(Note: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution by "#")													

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Att.No. Subject

- 3 A two-page report of observations and naval vessel sightings at Klaipeda between 19 October and 13 November 1959, including: a relaxation of port security controls; two Q-class submarines, [redacted] several tracked military vehicles; two boxcars with radar antennas and range finders, which were probably part of a mobile coastal defense battery; a probable KRONSHADT-class submarine chaser [redacted] harbor construction activities; and shore gun emplacements. 50X1-HUM
- 4 A two-page report of naval vessel sightings and other observations at or near Ventspils during the period 17 to 28 November 1959, including: 11 KRONSHADT-class submarine chasers [redacted] a tender [redacted] an MTB [redacted] a probable distilling ship [redacted] the minelayer MARTI; a SASHA-class minesweeper [redacted] the widening of the channel from 100 to 180 meters; construction activities; a box-shaped object resembling, but ten times larger than, an ordinary light buoy, at N 57-08, E 20-32; a vessel awash with only its stack and masts above water at N 57-06, E 20-28. 50X1-HUM
- 5 A one-page report of naval vessel sightings at Ventspils on 11 December 1959, including: seven possible SASHA-class minesweepers [redacted] four KRONSHADT-class submarine chasers [redacted] eight possible KRONSHADT-class submarine chasers [redacted] several MTBs; and the minelayer MARTI. 50X1-HUM
- 6 A brief one-paragraph report of naval vessel sightings at KRONSHADT and Leningrad on 18 December 1959, including the icebreaker LENIN at Kronshtadt and two probable W-class submarines, [redacted] at Leningrad. 50X1-HUM
- 7 [redacted] naval vessel sightings in the Baltic Sea and at Leningrad during the period from 20 to 23 November 1959, including: a possible large floating dock near position N 59-12, E 22-00; the cruiser KIROV [redacted] a SVERDLOV-class cruiser, [redacted] a very large submarine, [redacted] three vessels allegedly fitted out for the Antarctic; and the merchant vessel OBS (possibly the OB). 50X1-HUM
- 8 [redacted] naval vessel sightings near Leningrad and Kronshtadt on 4 December 1959, including the icebreaker LENIN which was anchored at the Leningrad Lightship's position. It was noted that, except for the VYBORG, Kronshtadt harbor was almost empty. 50X1-HUM

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Attack No 1

[REDACTED] 50X1-HUM

[REDACTED] 50X1-HUM

SOVIET UNION.

ECONOMIC [REDACTED]

50X1-HUM

Soviet oil shipments from
KLAIPEDA in Spring 1960.

1. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] new Soviet enquiries for [REDACTED] Western ship-
ping from Klaipeda from next Spring. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Klaipeda will be able to receive from May 1st
ships of up to 23 feet draught.

2. The Soviet enquiries have been not only for ships,
mainly tankers, of up to 23 feet draught, but also for
smaller tankers of 2,000 to 3,000 tons.

3. New quays are being built in Klaipeda with what is
believed to be pump machinery for loading oil on to
tankers. The Soviet enquirers after tonnage have dis-
closed nothing specific about these installations, but
have confirmed observers' reports that the port is being
deepened, modernised and improved generally.

4. The Soviet enquirers have, however, hinted that
Klaipeda may ultimately [REDACTED] be used primarily for exports

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[REDACTED] to the DDR. No reason was
given.

[REDACTED] 50X1-HUM

Europe.

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[REDACTED] 50X1-HUM

COUNTRY SSR

REPORT

SUBJECT Buoys and Towers South of
Ventspils

DATE OF REPORT 1 December 1959

NO. OF PAGES 2

50X1-HUM

REFERENCES

DATE OF
INFO.
PLACE &
DATE ACQ

SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE. NOTE FOREGOING EXPLANATION.

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The following additional information and sketch were provided concerning the buoys and towers in paragraph 5 of reference:

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1. An area bordered by a line through the following positions was declared closed to navigation by the Soviets in the summer of 1956:
 - a. N 57-18-00, E 21-20-00.
 - b. N 57-18-00, E 21-16-02.
 - c. N 57-15-05, E 21-16-02.
 - d. N 57-15-05, E 21-21-00.
2. The restricted area was reopened late in the summer of 1958. It is likely that the buoys mentioned in reference either marked the prohibited area or were used as markers within the restricted area.

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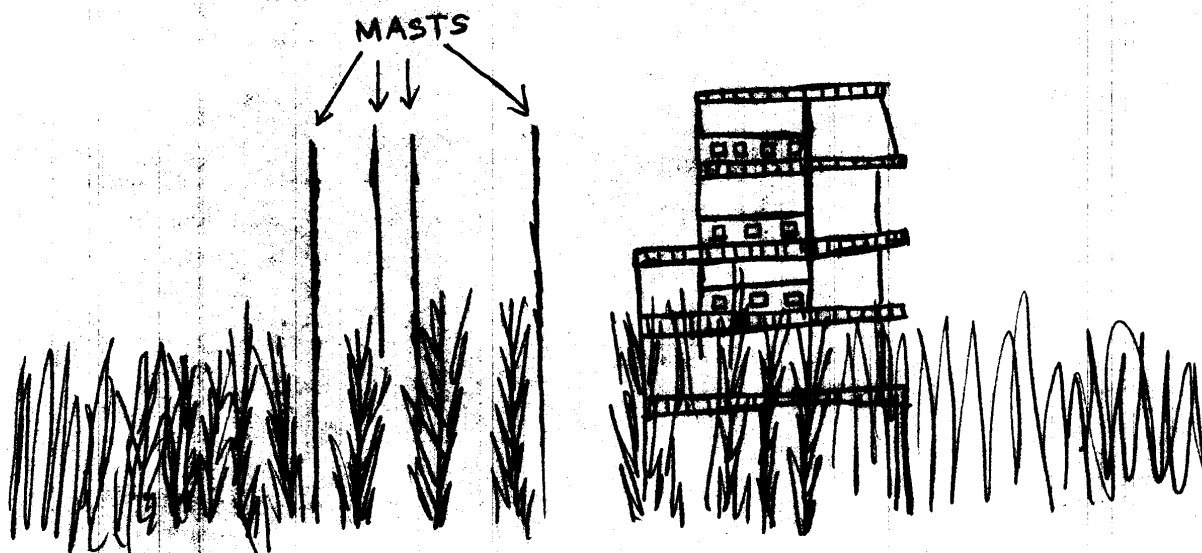
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COUNTRY USSR (Lithuanian SSR)
SUBJECT Ship Sightings and Other
Observations in Klaipeda

REPORT

DATE OF REPORT 30 December 1959

NO. OF PAGES 2

REFERENCES

att. No. 3, 50X1-HUM

DATE OF
INFO.
PLACE &
DATE ACQ.

SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE. NOTE FOREGOING EXPLANATION.

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1. An order calling for the cessation of strict control on merchant vessels was received in Klaipeda from Moscow on 6 October 1959.

The order required continuance of a routine clearance only and stated that items on board ship which were formerly sealed no longer require sealing, that captains may go ashore anywhere without a shore pass, that the guard on the wharf is not to examine the captain's briefcase as he boards or leaves the vessel, and that ships' crews are to be shown politeness in every respect.¹

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2. The following observations were made in Klaipeda

- a. Two submarines ² were in the Winter Harbor.

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- b. Several tracked military vehicles, some of which had turrets with gun barrels were seen among the trees north of the entrance to Klaipeda. Two box cars, 8 to 10 meters long, equipped with radar antennas were seen at the same location. The antennas were estimated to be about 6 meters from the ground. A trellis mast about 20 meters high and topped by a dome with windows and range-finders was also observed among the trees. Further back in the woods was a radio mast about five times as tall as the surrounding trees. The upper part of the mast was painted light grey.³

- c. About 50 pipes⁴ of 3/4 meter to 1 meter in diameter were on the quay near the oil storage facility. A cement mixer was in operation on the oil quay.

- d. A dredger was working outside the entrance to Klaipeda.

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3. The following observations were made in Klaipeda [redacted]
- a. Several small patrol vessels, [redacted] were observed patrolling outside Klaipeda at 0900 hours MET.
 - b. Thirteen horizontal and three vertical oil tanks, all apparently old, were observed at the Oil Depot.
 - c. The quay near the warehouse appeared to be undergoing repair. A traveling crane was observed on the quay.
 - d. A pipe approximately 12 centimeters in diameter extended from the pump station at the new sections of the quay past the tanks and into the woods behind. Many new buildings were glimpsed in the wood.
 - e. Two trellis masts with a dome on top were observed near the woods. The dome looked as though it contained a range-finder. A steel tower with two radar antennas on top was also observed. One of the antennas was in a flat dome, and the other was seen to be rotating freely.
 - f. At the edge of the wood were three long-barreled guns and on the shore were three guns in small turrets. The guns on the shore appeared to be older than the guns near the wood.
 - g. Three dredgers were working in the harbor from the entrance towards the Coal Quay.

[redacted] Comments

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1. [redacted] Recent indications that harbor controls have been relaxed so far seem to apply only to Klaipeda.
2. These submarines are of the Q class.
3. These vehicles, range-finder, and radar box cars are often seen at the location mentioned and probably are part of the mobile coastal battery which is normally seen along the shore.
4. Similar pipes have been observed in Ventspils. Both Klaipeda and Ventspils have been mentioned as terminals for an oil pipeline from the interior of the Soviet Union. It is known that the oil storage facility in Klaipeda is being extended and that a new stretch of quay has been constructed. Construction is in progress on what appears to be oil piers in the Ventspils Outer Harbor.
5. [redacted] probably a KRONSTADT-class subchaser.

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COUNTRY USSR

REPORT

SUBJECT Ship Sightings and Other
Observations in Ventspils

DATE OF REPORT 12 January 1960

NO. OF PAGES 2

REFERENCES *Att. No. 4.*

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DATE OF
INFO.
PLACE &
DATE ACQ.

SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE. NOTE FO 50X1-HUM PLANATION.

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1. The following Soviet naval vessels were observed in Ventspils

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a. Seven KRONSHADT-class submarine chasers flying a green flag.

left the harbor at noon.

b. Five KRONSHADT-class subchasers

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c. Tender with two identical motor torpedo boats along-
side, Neither of
the two motor torpedo boats had tubes.

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d. The tanker to the outside of the previously reported old
cruiser/minelayer² without guns.

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e. Five minesweepers

2. The following Soviet naval vessels were observed in Ventspils

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a. Four KRONSHADT-class subchasers
and five additional KRONSHADT-class subchasers flying
a green flag.

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b. Three minesweepers

3

c. The cruiser/minelayer mentioned in paragraph 1.d. with tanker
alongside. Several naval vessels were refueling

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- d. Two motor torpedo boats without torpedo tubes. 50X1-HUM
3. Many naval vessels were observed in Ventspils [redacted] 50X1-HUM
 two vessels were described as minesweepers with a hull that was low but had sheer. A large old naval vessel with two funnels [redacted] was moored at the Naval Quay.⁶
4. KRONSHADT-class subchaser [redacted] was observed eastbound at point N 57-24, E 21-09 [redacted]
5. The channel in the range lights was being widened from 100 to 180 meters.
6. Sheet piling was being driven in the Outer Harbor apparently for three relatively small piers each with mooring accommodations on both sides. The sheet piling had not been connected with the shore at the time of observation.
7. The distance from the Inner Pier to the row of sheet piling driven at right angles to the coastline in the Outer Harbor was approximately 150 meters.
8. A box-shaped object resembling a buoy, but at least ten times larger than an ordinary light buoy, was observed at approximately N 57-08, E 20-32 on 24 November. The object had no lights or other markings. 50X1-HUM
9. [redacted] a vessel had been observed with only the funnel and two masts above the water at point N 57-06, E 20-28.⁵⁷

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Comments

2. The old cruiser/minelayer is an ex-MARTI-class minelayer which arrived at Ventspils on 31 October 1959 and is probably to be used as a depot ship.
3. Minesweeper [redacted] is a SASHA-class inshore minesweeper.
4. [redacted] a KRONSHADT-class subchaser.
5. [redacted] the vessel sighted was probably a KRONSHADT-class subchaser. 50X1-HUM
6. The old vessel with two funnels is the ex-MARTI-class minelayer also mentioned in paras. 1.d. and 2.c. 50X1-HUM
7. The depth at this location is approximately 90 meters. [redacted] a navigational warning was issued from Leningrad [redacted] concerning the observation of a vessel with only the funnel and two masts above the water [redacted] at point N 57-06, E 20-28. It is not known that a ship was reported missing in this area. The positions listed are in the western outskirts of a restricted area. 50X1-HUM

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Att No 6

COUNTRY: **USSR**

REPORT NO.

SUBJECT: **Observation of Soviet Naval
Vessels in Ventpils**

DATE OF INFO:

50X1-HUM

DATE ACQUIRED:

DATE OF REPORT: **13 January 1960**

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1. The following Soviet naval units were observed in Ventpils

a. Seven minesweepers

b. Subchasers

of the KRONSTADT class.

c. Eight subchasers

d. A number of motor torpedo boats or small minesweepers.

e. The minelayer MARTY

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Oct. 10, 6

COUNTRY USSR

REPORT

SUBJECT Observation of Soviet Naval Vessels

DATE OF REPORT 13 January 1960

NO. OF PAGES 1

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REFERENCES -

DATE OF
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PLACE &
DATE ACC

SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE. NOTE FOREGOING EXPLANATION.

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1. [redacted] the ice breaker LENIN was moored to a buoy west of Tolbukin, in Kronshtadt.

2. The following vessels were observed in Leningrad [redacted]

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a. Submarines [redacted]

- b. The de-rigged cruiser, which formerly had been observed at the Laveya Damba quay, lay moored with its starboard side against the fitting out quay where the LENIN had been moored earlier. The hull appeared to be very high in the water.

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SECRET / NOFORN*Att. No. 7*

COUNTRY: USSR

REPORT NO:

SUBJECT: Port Report - Baltic Sea - Leningrad

DATE OF INFO

DATE ACQUIRE

DATE OF REPORT: 5 January 1960

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Naval

1. a.

very large being towed in a southwesterly direction was observed in the northwest. The towed object was lit up

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it was a very large floating dock.

Around the tow there were five tugboats, two in front, one on each side aft, and one between these two latter boats, aft of the tow.

Between the tow and a signal station in on Dagö, blinker signaling was observed. This traffic went on for a long time and was repeated several times

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In the same area several vessels

were possibly submarines.

the vessels were seen in the dark assumed to be submarines

because of the way in which they carried their lanterns.

b.

west of

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2

[redacted]

Leningrad Lightship, four submarines passed by, headed west. [redacted]

[redacted]

The vessels, that were medium large, were in line ahead, with a distance of about one hundred meters between each sub. They carried position lanterns.

by

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Kronstadt, the following naval vessels were seen in the harbor:

c. In the western part of the Central Harbor a cruiser lay, tied up in an east-west position. She had an angled main-mast and angled smokestacks. The main-mast was located just forward of the after smokestack. Aft of the navigating bridge was located a structure that, at the top, had an extension toward the stern. [redacted]

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[redacted] identified [redacted] as a KIROV-class cruiser.

d. Just inside the above vessel lay another vessel tied up in the same direction. This ship was somewhat larger [redacted] and had vertical masts and smokestacks. She [redacted]

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[redacted] belong to the SVERDLOV-class.

e. In the eastern part of the Central Harbor, two vessels were tied up in a north-south direction. These two were identical, and belonged to the same class [redacted] The vessels appeared to be undergoing repairs, or even remodeling.

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f. Inside the vessels mentioned in points c and d lay an [redacted] armored ship as well as a number of smaller naval vessels [redacted]

[redacted]

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g. [redacted]

[redacted] out of the Merskoi, a submarine came from the west. After passing Kronstadt, she turned north on the east side of Kronstadt.

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[redacted] the sub [redacted]

[redacted] was very large, about two thousand tons. [redacted]

Shipping.

2. a. Three commercial vessels were observed in Leningrad, two of which were tied up one outside the other at the end of Levaya Damba, and one, at the same pier in the Merskoi Canal. All three were, in general, of the same type; combined cargo and passenger vessels, somewhat older types probably built before the war, and were about 3000 brt. The ships were painted white and flew a somewhat unusual flag that was blue, or possibly, green.

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[redacted] on one of the ships, some of the crew

members were in uniform. The names of the ships were not observed.

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- b. Also alongside the dock was observed another combined cargo and passenger ship of about 5000 brt [redacted] This ship had two helicopters on her after-deck.

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Att. No. 8,

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COUNTRY: USSR

REPORT NO:

SUBJECT: **Pert Report - Bay of Finland -
Leningrad**

DATE OF INFO:

DATE ACQUIRED:

DATE OF REPORT: **5 January 1960**

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Naval

1. [redacted] by Kronstadt, the harbor 50X1-HUM

was practically empty. All of the large vessels [redacted]

[redacted] had left. 50X1-HUM

Leningrad Lightship as well as most of the buoys had been taken in [redacted]

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2. Ice-breaker LENIN

On 4 December the LENIN was seen anchored in the Leningrad Lightship's position. The ship appeared to have been through very foul weather as the

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paint was peeling and a lot of rust could be seen. [redacted]

she was to be used in the Bay of Finland during the winter of 1959/60.

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