

## INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Yugoslavia

CONFIDENTIAL

DATE DISTR. 4 MAY 50

SUBJECT Clearing of Mines in the Adriatic

NO. OF PAGES 1

50X1

PLACE  
ACQUIREDNO. OF ENCLS.  
(LISTED BELOW)DATE OF  
INFO.SUPPLEMENT TO  
REPORT NO.

50X1-HUM

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS INFORMATION AFFECTING THE NATIONAL DEFENSES OF THE UNITED STATES WITHIN THE MEANING OF THE ESPIONAGE ACT OF U.S.C. 51 AND 52, AS AMENDED. ITS TRANSMISSION OR THE REVELATION OF ITS CONTENTS IN ANY MANNER TO AN UNAUTHORIZED PERSON IS PROHIBITED BY LAW. REPRODUCTION OF THIS FORM IS PROHIBITED.

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

50X1-HUM

1. During World War II, numerous mines were laid along the Dalmatian coast in order to prevent free navigation of the Adriatic. When the Communist regime came into power, the Yugoslav Navy undertook mine-sweeping operations. Until very recently, however, certain minor ports in Dalmatia were considered inaccessible to vessels of metal construction, and circumnavigation of these ports, via safely determined routes, was necessary. Only wooden vessels with a shallow draught could safely navigate through the mine infested waters.
2. The mines laid during the war were placed approximately 100 meters apart in checker board fashion. They were for the most part anchored in groups of three or four, exploding when a vessel passed above them; or else they were magnetized, which enabled them to release themselves and approach steel vessels of their own volition.
3. The Adriatic mine fields were swept in August and September 1949, and, in the Northern Adriatic particularly, the ports of Cres, Cigale, Losinj Mali and the Koromacno Bay of Istria were completely cleared. The dangerous sector between Cape Jablanac, in the gulf of Rijeka, and port Valosko, in northern Istria were swept together with the sectors between Cape Pernat, the lighthouse of Cape Crna in Istria, and the Porozin Channel. Likewise, the northern sector between Cape Kamenjak of Istria, Grujica (lighthouse), and Susak was partially swept.
4. Mine-sweeping operations in the Central Adriatic included the western maritime sector of Tramarka Island (near the island of Molat), and the sector southwest of Dugi Otok (Veli lighthouse). The sectors between the islands of Drvenik and Mali Drvenik in the Solta Channel, and the sector of the Drvenik Channel between Drvenik and the Dalmatian coast, as well as the sector northwest of the Hulo lighthouse (below Rogoznica) were also swept.
5. Clearing of mines has made possible the entry of vessels of heavy tonnage into the ports of Losinj Mali and Koromacno of Istria, and maritime coastal traffic has thereby been considerably shortened. Much however remains to be done to render the Adriatic 100 percent safe for navigation.

CLASSIFICATION SECRET

CONFIDENTIAL

STATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NAVY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NSRB	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
ARMY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	AIR	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	FBI	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the letter of 16 October 1978 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the Archivist of the United States.

Next Review Date: 2008

Document No. 100-100000-100000  
No Change in Class.  
Declassified  
Class. Changed To: TS S C  
Auth: RM 70-2  
Date: 8 Jan 78

50X1