

INFORMATION REPORT

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SUBJECT Fishing Operations in the Klaipeda Area

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SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO. 25X1X

1. There are no privately owned fishing vessels presently operating in the Klaipeda area.
2. It is not true that only Russians are permitted to fish in the Baltic. However, it should be noted that there are no ships at sea whose complement is 100 percent Lithuanian. Generally there is a maximum of three Lithuanians on a ship.
3. Local inhabitants who do not belong to fishing artels are not permitted to own any type of boats. In accordance with this prohibition local inhabitants are forbidden to do any fishing whatsoever in the Baltic Sea; this probably means for commercial purposes.
4. Fishing boats are not closely regulated while at sea, being allowed to choose their own fishing areas and to go alone. However, each captain must radio a report to the home port four times daily - at 0700, 1100, 1500, and 2200.
5. There is no regulation of the issuance of fuel. As much fuel as is desired may be obtained, and it is not necessary to turn in any fuel remaining after completion of a voyage.
6. If a boat returns late for any reason, the captain must have notified the proper authorities of his expected late return and the reason therefor. A very cogent reason must be given in order for the captain to avoid imprisonment. All means at the captain's disposal, including radio, flares, etc., must be used for this purpose.
7. Most of the boats in the Klaipeda area are of two types.
 - a. Vessels of 88 tons. These ships are 23 meters in length with a beam amidships of 5 meters. The engines are either 220 hp "Larlin" engines (on Finnish-built ships) with a speed of 9½ mph or 120 hp "Demag" German-built engines with a speed of 6½-7 mph. This type of vessel has a capacity of 35 tons of fish and carries two masts, each 5 meters high.

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- b. Vessels of 220 tons. The length of these ships is 45 to 55 meters. Speed is 9½ mph. They are equipped with one steel mast. The vessels have a beam of 9 meters amidships. Fish carrying capacity is 80 to 100 tons.

8. The normal complements of the two vessels described above are as follows:

- a. The 88-ton vessels. Normal complement is ten.

- 1 Captain
- 1 First Mate
- 1 Mechanic
- 1 Mechanic's Assistant
- 1 Radioman
- 1 Trawlmaster (Boatswain)
- 1 Assistant Trawlmaster
- 1 Cook (male or female)
- 2 Seamen

- b. The 220-ton vessels. Normal complement is 24.*

- 1 Captain
- 1 First Mate
- 1 Second Mate
- 1 Mechanic
- 1 Mechanic's Mate First Class
- 1 Mechanic's Mate Second Class
- 1 Mechanic's Mate Third Class
- 3 Oilers
- 1 Boatswain
- 1 Trawlmaster
- 1 Assistant Trawlmaster
- 1 Cook (male or female)
- 10 Seamen

It is not unusual for a ship to have aboard fewer persons than its normal complement. However, it would be extraordinary for a ship to have more persons than a normal complement.

9. Cod, each weighing five to seven kilograms, is the most common type of fish caught in the areas fished by boats from the Klaipeda area. Boats from Klaipeda fish in three areas. One area is within five miles of Klaipeda on a compass bearing 220° from the port. The second is 35 miles from Klaipeda, on a compass bearing 265° from the port. The third is 72 miles from Klaipeda, 280° from the port. An average day's catch in any of these areas would be about 2½ to 3 tons.

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Comment: It is likely that the crew of 24 on the 220 ton vessels includes a radioman since one is carried on the smaller 88-ton vessels.

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