



INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

1. The Polish Navy Recruit Training Center (Kadra Marynarki Wojennej) is located about 1 1/2 miles west of Ustka (Stolpmuende, N 54-35, E 16-51) in a prewar German barracks. The center is charged with all Navy basic training except for that of a few recruits who were taken directly into the Navy Telecommunications School in Gdynia.

The Center handled only one class per year. This class was trained during the November to February period. While no recruit training was carried on during March through October there was a continuing program at the Navy Specialties School which was located in the same camp.

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Military Organization

2. During the periods of attendance [redacted] the military organization of the Recruit Center was approximately the same. All recruits were organized into two battalions of nine companies each. During [redacted] training period, each company had three platoons. This was later changed to four platoons per company [redacted]. In both cases, however, the size of a company averaged 120-150 recruits. Almost all of the officers of the organization were transferees from the Polish Army, who, while they had donned naval uniforms, had neither naval training nor sea-going experience. This was no real handicap, however, since the recruit training program consisted entirely of infantry drill and basic army-type field exercises. These officers were transferred in equivalent rank. The command structure for battalions and companies during the periods of attendance of both sources was as follows:

Battalion Commander - - - - - Lieutenant (Kapitan)
 Battalion Training Officer - - - - - Lieutenant (junior grade) (Porucznik)
 Battalion Political Deputy - - - - - Ensign (Podporucznik)
 Plus various enlisted clerks, etc.

Company Commander - - - - - Lieutenant (junior grade) (Porucznik)
 Company Political Deputy - - - - - Ensign or Chief Warrant Officer (Chorazy)
 Plus various enlisted assistants. Both of the above officers were graduates of the Polish Army Officer's Infantry School.

3. During [redacted] recruit training, Platoon Command organization was as follows:

Platoon Commander - - - - - Lieutenant (junior grade) - (1st Platoon each Company)
 Platoon Commander - - - - - Chief Warrant Officer - (2nd Platoon each Company)
 Platoon Commander - - - - - Chief Warrant Officer - (3rd Platoon each Company)

The 1st Platoon Commander was also an administrative assistant to the Company Commander. There was also a BM2 as Petty Officer in charge of the entire Company. The Platoons were further divided into five squads, each commanded either by a BM3 or a Seaman. Platoon structure during [redacted] training was as follows: all four Platoon Commanders were CWO's; one BM2 was assigned as a "Sergeant-major" for all platoons. Each platoon had four squads under the leadership of a Seaman. The above company and platoon organizations undoubtedly varied from unit to unit but [redacted] said the examples were average. During [redacted] recruit training, the enlisted personnel in the command structure were graduates of previous classes who had remained at the Center and who had never had any general service or sea duty.

Camp Commander

4. The Recruit Training School and Navy Specialties School were both located in the same installation in Ustka. They were independent of each other, however, and the Commanding Officer of each school was directly responsible to the Naval Headquarters in Gdynia. The senior of the two Commanding Officers was, however, the "Garrison Commander" who, for purposes of military administrative control, was the Camp Commander as well.



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[redacted] Both Commanding Officers had "large staffs of officers and enlisted personnel" (composition unknown) and often inspected trainee formations.

Composition of the Companies:

50X1 5. This was also different [redacted] Of the 18 companies taken in
50X1 [redacted] five were designated from the outset as Recruits for Training for Guard Duty, seven were designated as Trainees who would go from recruit training directly to the Navy Specialties School, and the remaining six companies were to be assigned to administrative positions at the center and at other Polish Navy bases. One of these companies became "boot-pushers" etc. for subsequent classes. These latter companies would never go to sea duty. Not only would the Guard Trainees never be sent to sea, but they would also never perform any duties other than guarding Naval land installations. The training course for the Guard Companies was one month shorter than for the others. These Guard trainees had only two years obligated service, while the others had three. Assignment to one or the other of the three categories was apparently arbitrary. However, at the beginning of the course, a recruit who desired strongly not to be assigned to Guard training might be transferred out. [redacted] Usually the prospect of one year's less service made for few requests for transfer from the Guard trainees. During the training period, from a total of about 2500, around 100 recruits from all three categories were discharged for medical reasons.

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50X16. By [redacted] more attention was paid to selection. The final distribution was the same but assignment was not made until near the end of training. Then, based on performance during recruit training, some tests, and a personal interview, the recruits were assigned as follows:

- The "best" one-third to the Navy Specialties School.
- The next highest one-ninth to become recruit instructors for the next class.
- The equivalent of five companies to Auxiliary Duty (non-sea duty).
- The remainder to Guard duty.

The political officers took part in the personal interviews and their opinions carried a great deal of weight in evaluating individual recruits. Pertinent to the general question of assignment, [redacted] three extra companies of recruits designated for Guard training were called up during the spring. These were in addition to the regular program.

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1954 Reorganization

50X17. [redacted] that in 1954 a basic reorganization of the system took place which amounted to combining the two schools. Under this system, the recruits were tested for aptitude upon induction and upon arrival at the center were assigned to Recruit companies which were already designated as Guard companies, prospective signalmen, prospective cooks, etc. Members of the signalman company knew from the beginning of recruit training that they would go on to the Navy Specialties School's Signalmen Course at the end of basic training. In fact, during the final weeks of "boot-training" the various specialty companies began to receive elementary training in the rate they were to follow. Under this new plan it seems the two schools were combined under a single head and the Specialties School became an extension of basic training.

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Training Program:

8. It took about three weeks of each November for all the members of a new class to arrive at the center. During this period there was a typical "Beginning Routine". This included [redacted] a haircut, a bath, assignment to quarters, issue of uniforms, a superficial medical exam, policing of area, cleaning of quarters, etc. Extra time was filled by sending the men into the nearby forest to cut firewood, and much repetitive "field-day" work, which was termed by sources "unnecessary".
9. [redacted] the following Plan-of-the-Day was followed for three months, six days per week:
- 0600 - Reveille
 - 0605 - Calisthenics
 - 0620 - Wash-up, etc.
 - 0630 - Breakfast
 - 0700 - Police barracks
 - 0730 - Quarters for muster
 - 0800 - Begin four hours drill, rifle range, field exercises, weapon instruction, etc. Except Monday, Wednesday and Friday when there were two hours of Political Instruction, followed by sports (always calisthenics, rope-climbing, etc.)
 - 1200 - Lunch and mid-day break.
 - 1400 - Begin three hours drill, etc.
 - 1700 - Clean weapons, return to barracks at 1800.
 - 1830 - Supper
 - 1900 - Extra instruction (compulsory for everyone) including political lectures, reading, etc.
 - 2100 - Wash clothes, etc.
 - 2230 - Formation for "marching-singing"
 - 2300 --Taps.
10. The routine for Sunday was late (0700) reveille; field-day in barracks until noon; from after lunch until 2200, free athletics and recreation. No liberty was granted during the entire recruit period. Four times during the training period the companies were marched into the city for a movie. As far as training was concerned, the Center could just as well have been a Basic training camp for the infantry as no distinctly naval type training was carried out. (Not even rowing of cutters!) Field exercises were used for building up physical strength but there was no course in swimming. Training was carried out by enlisted personnel, but on field exercises officers were always present in observer capacity. When the temperature fell below -10°C (16° F) all training was conducted indoors. There were end-of-course exams in political education and weapons.
11. [redacted] the schedule had been altered somewhat. Continued complaints had brought recognition that the program was too arduous. Reveille was changed to 0630. Sundays were free except for one hour evening study hall. A new system was instituted for the Political Education Course. Monday, the recruits heard a two-hour political lecture and took notes. Wednesday, the political education period was devoted to supervised study hour, and the Friday session was for an examination over the weeks' material. During the last month town liberty was granted on Saturdays from 1700 to 2400 and on Sundays from 1500 to 2400. However, only 10% of the Camp could be on liberty on any given day. Since this quota included enlisted instructors as well as recruits, very few recruits ever left the camp. The program also had been expanded to include 10-minute current-event "broadcasts" at morning quarters three times per week.

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Uniforms

50X112. The original outfit issued [redacted] consisted of the following:

2 cotton drill uniforms
 1 wool seaman's uniform (new)
 1 wool seaman's uniform (used)
 2 pairs of shoes
 3 long sleeved T shirts
 3 pair of shorts
 3 pair of long underwear trousers
 4 pairs sock
 3 caps (blue, white, working)
 1 sweat suit
 3 pair leg and foot wrappings
 1 scarf
 1 wool sweater
 2 pea coats
 2 pair gloves
 6 handkerchiefs
 2 neckerchiefs
 3 extra collars for blouses
 1 belt

50X1.3. The issue received [redacted] was somewhat smaller; fewer of each small item, and only one P-coat was issued. [redacted] group, however, did receive a sea-bag. [redacted] the issue was adequate.

Pay

50X1.4. As a recruit, [redacted] received six Zlotys per month which represented 30 cigarettes to him. [redacted] pay was eight Zlotys per month, but the pay raise apparently followed a general rise in prices. [redacted] eight Zlotys were worth four glasses of beer.

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Relationship with Instructors

50X1.5. [redacted] excellent relations with instructors and drill masters, although the normal amount of "top-sergeant" type "bellowing" was experienced. Some of the drill masters, after a platoon had become proficient, would march their groups into the woods and then let them break-ranks and take naps.

Equipment

16. The Center had little equipment but apparently did not require much. Recruits were issued "Category 3" (old, good only for training purposes) Russian rifles which were, nevertheless, kept in good condition through constant cleaning by the recruits. The center also had several old machine guns. The motor pool operated 15 ZIS trucks and three tractors. Upon arrival at Ustka, the new recruits were picked up at the railroad station and taken to the Center in trucks. That was the only ride they ever had. From then on they marched wherever they went. On field problems they sometimes had to march for an hour to get back to the messhall for the noon meal.

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Security

17. The Recruit Center was not fenced nor were its boundaries actually patrolled. They had two guard houses. Each was manned by a petty officer and 12 guards. Guard Detail No. 1 was in charge of camp security. They checked liberty passes, etc., and controlled civilians who entered the area. (Since dependents lived nearby, and the camp was not fenced, it was easy for them to enter the training area at almost any point.) The civilians were required to have passes to be inside the camp limits. Although no known attempts were made to falsify liberty papers, the guards on duty at the checking gate often telephoned the O.D. to verify passes. Guard Detail No. 2 was charged with the protection of storage areas and equipment. Both units made numerous night checks on personnel and the camp area.

Communism

18. Most of the recruits were neither Communists nor anti-Communists. They liked the Political Education Course because it allowed them to remain inside a warm building and to catch "cap-naps". [redacted] company had about six "Party-Liners" who fervently supported Communism. One outspoken anti-Red was arrested. Later the recruits were told that the man had been a "Western Agent". Most recruits parroted the information given them in the lectures when called upon to recite because it avoided trouble to do so.

Graduation

19. While there was no graduation ceremony as such, just before the end of the course there was a review attended by a high-ranking naval official from Gdynia. At this time the "oath" was taken and the recruits received the title of "sailor". Although the training course had been an arduous schedule, [redacted]

1. [redacted]

2. [redacted] Comment: Apparently service in Navy Guards fell under that part of the National Military Service which prescribed two years service in the Army (or Marines) rather than three years in the Navy.

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1. Headquarters of the Basic Training Center and the Naval Specialists School - three-story, brick building, plastered walls, with an observation tower about 20 meters high.
2. Guard House No. 1 - Small, one-story, brick building.
3. Garrison Brig - One-story, brick house.
4. Workshop and Garages - One-story, brick building.
5. Lecture and Practical Work Hall - Wooden barrack, one-story. It contained various diesel engines and models. Engineering lectures were held there.
6. Visitors' House - Wooden, one-story barrack.
7. Barrack Gate - One guard checked passes here.
8. Foodstorage - Two-story, brick building.
9. Company Buildings - Two-story, brick buildings with plastered grey walls and to tiled roofs.
- 19.a
20. Workshop.
21. Boiler house - Central heating point for headquarters and other buildings.
22. Gasoline Station - One sentry.
23. Mess hall - Had kitchens and dining halls for the entire camp.
24. Company Buildings - Similar to Point 9.
to
29.
30. Lecture hall - Two-story, brick building used for lectures for signalmen, QM's etc.
31. Company Buildings - Similar to Point 9.
to
36.
37. Canteen - Two-story, brick building, similar to those in Point 9. The Canteen was located on the first floor, and the second floor was used for lectures and exhibitions for steam engineering courses.
38. Apartment Houses - For officers' families; two-story, brick buildings with several & apartments in each.
- 39.
40. Officers' hotel (BOQ) - For visitors and newly assigned officers, two-story brick building.
41. Dispensary and Sick-Bay - Two-story, brick building.

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42. Bath House - One-story, brick building.
43. Barber Shop.
44. Carpenter Shop and Shoemakers Shop - One part was occupied by a fire brigade which had two fire engines.
45. Laundry - One-story, brick building.
46. Dependent Quarters - Two-story, brick building.
47. Fire Brigade Garage.
48. Shed - Consisted of a roof supported by poles and no walls.
49. Shed - Had skeleton walls, roof covered with sheet metal.
50. Movie Theater - One-story building constructed from a shed like that in Point 49.
51. Shelters - Roofs only, supported by poles, no walls.
- &
- 52.
53. Food Storage - Reconstructed from a shelter like those in Points 51 & 52.
54. Clothing Store - Description same as that in Point 53.
55. Shelters - Used during winter months and during rainy days for physical training.
- to
- Description same as that in Point 51.
- 58.
59. Pig Sties.
- &
- 60.
61. Guard house # 2 - One-story, brick building.
62. Dependent Quarters.
63. Bakery - New one-story, brick building constructed in 1954.
64. Dependent Quarters.
- &
- 65.
66. Pump station - The building was called the "old castle". It is an old stone and brick building about 15 meters high. The pump station was located in the basement. Some of the cellars were also used for the storage of potatoes.
67. Dependent Houses.
- to
- 71.
72. Sauerkraut Storage - Underground, cement basin, about one meter high with a wooden covering.
73. Officers' Mess - Wooden, one-story, about 10 x 40 meters.

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74. Wooden Barracks - One-story buildings used for lecture rooms, (artillery, torpedos to and mines).
75.
76. Parade Square - About 130 x 130 meters.
77. Ordnance Stores - For rifles, machine pistols, light and heavy machine guns (six buildings).
78. Armory Workshop - Two buildings.
79. Ammunition Stores.
80. Gasoline & Oil Store - Gasoline was kept in large, metal bottles.
REMARKS: All buildings from 77 to 80 were one-story brick buildings (20 x 7 x 2.5 meters) with plastered walls painted green. The roofs were flat & covered with tarpaper. Roofs were covered with wire. [redacted] wire was charged. On both sides of the buildings were smooth, granite cobblestone roads. 50X1
81. Barbed Wire Fence - About two meters high.
82. X - Sentry patrolling the area.
83. Coal Storage.
84. Railway Line with Siding - All supplies for the camp were brought by this railway.
85. Side Loading and Unloading Ramp - Paved with cobblestones.

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