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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

21 April 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Director of Central Intelligence
FROM : John H. Stein
Deputy Director for Operations
SUBJECT : [redacted] Report

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[redacted]
John H. Stein

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Intelligence Information Special Report

COUNTRY USSR/Warsaw Pact/Poland/GDR



DATE OF INFO. September 1981

DATE 21 April 1982

SUBJECT

Warsaw Pact Recommendations
on Antimine Defense in the Baltic Sea

SOURCE Documentary

Summary:

This report is a translation of a Polish SECRET document, prepared for the PAF General Staff by Polish Navy Commander Admiral JANCZYSZYN, on the Polish acceptance of a series of Warsaw Pact recommendations dealing with antimine defense in the Baltic Sea. The tripartite approach includes the Soviet Baltic Fleet, and GDR and Polish navies, and proposes a common antimine defense system, standardized support and training approaches, and use of Project 207, or Project 1258E (if produced), minesweepers, and sweeping gear, of Polish manufacture. References are also made to inquiries into the tactical use of frogmen, data recording and display equipment, sonar, and an underwater vehicle, about to go into Polish production, designated as BLOTNIAK.

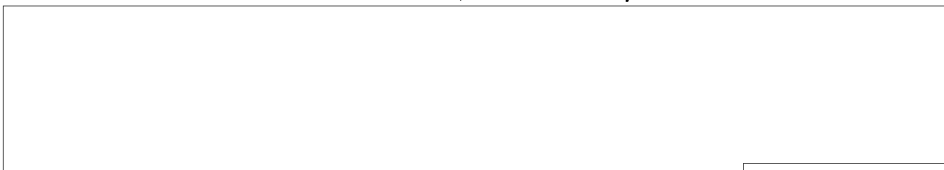
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NAVY COMMAND
28 September 1981
Gdynia

CHIEF OF THE GENERAL STAFF
Polish Armed Forces
through
OPERATIONS DIRECTORATE
GENERAL STAFF
POLISH ARMED FORCES

Warsaw

Navy Command Position on Implementing the
Recommendations of the Report from the Allied Fleet
Conference of Specialists on the Subject of Antimine Defense
and the Development of Antimine Defense Forces and Means

I present herewith to the Citizen General the Navy Command
position on implementing the decisions made by the Allied Fleet
conference of specialists held in June 1981, in ROSTOCK, on the
problem of antimine defense in the Baltic Sea (CONFIDENTIAL
letter #1052/I, dated 8 August 1981, and CONFIDENTIAL letter
#1054/I, dated 12 August 1981).

I. In the Field of Operations

Approve and put into force the following documents pertaining
to the organization of a combined allied naval antimine defense
system after submitting the documents to the General Staff, PAF,
by the Staff of the Combined Armed Forces of Warsaw Pact (WP)
countries:

1. Antimine defense plans of the Peoples Navy of the German
Democratic Republic (PN GDR), the Navy of the Polish Peoples

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Republic, and the Baltic Fleet of the USSR in the southern part of the Baltic Sea, in "constant," "increased," "threat of war" and "full" states of combat readiness.

2. Operational manual on navigational-hydrographic equipment supporting antimine activities.
3. Description of the unified system of water channels and means of navigational support in the southern part of the Baltic Sea.
4. Manual on the organization of antimine observation in the Baltic theater of naval operations.

The content and the form of the above mentioned documents were discussed in detail during the conference at SWINOUJSCIE, in May 1981, and were then accepted at the ROSTOCK conference.

In accordance with the decisions of the ROSTOCK conference, the organization of a combined antimine defense task force for training purposes is envisaged beginning with 1982. According to training plans for 1982, the staff of the Combined Armed Forces (CAF), WP, entrusted the organization of this task force to the PN GDR. According to the plan, a group of Polish Navy base minesweepers composed of 3-4 ships, and an operational group of officers from Navy headquarters and staffs of coastal defense flotillas, will be included in the composition of the task force.

On the basis of experience gained from 2-3 consecutive assemblies conducted by the allied navies, it will be possible to correct, if necessary, the organization of the antimine defense forces of our Navy.

II. In the Field of Materiel.

On analyzing the text of the ROSTOCK conference report (CONFIDENTIAL letter #1052/I, dated 8 August 1981), and studying the possibilities of implementing its provisions, the Navy Command, in coordination with Naval Materiel Headquarters of the Chief Inspector of Technology, PAF, is submitting the following recommendations for the solution of specific problems:

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1. Minesweepers and breachers of mine barriers:

- 1.1 The parties participating in the conference jointly acknowledged that Project 207 minesweepers are modern ships and it is advisable to incorporate them into the service of the allied fleets. This applies particularly to the PPR Navy.

In the opinion of the Navy Command, the size of Project 207 minesweeper, its technical-tactical parameters, and especially the armament for destroying mines, meet the requirements of the "Principles for Classification of Ships and Auxiliary Units Afloat of Fleets of the Warsaw Pact Countries" for including the minesweeper in the "base minesweeper" subclass. Equipping the PPR Navy with Project 207 minesweepers will insure maintenance of the required base minesweeper ceiling in the Baltic Sea within the tripartite allied agreement. The undertakings and measures recommended in the protocol in the field of low magnetic base minesweepers and minesweeping gear should be conducted by Poland in pursuit of a policy of modernization of Project 207 minesweepers and the introduction of successive mutations within the framework of the planned number of ships for combatting mines targeted for 1995.

Envisaged for the second quarter of 1983, subsequent to the conclusion of trial runs of the experimental vessel, is the submission, to the working group of the Technical Committee of the CAF, of a Polish proposal pertaining to the introduction into the equipment of WP allied fleets of Project 207 minesweeper, including sweeping gear produced for it. The initiation of production in Poland of Project 1258E minesweeper, under Soviet license, has been conditioned on requirements submitted, in accordance with standing WP procedures, by the partners involved.

Initial inquiries conducted on the capabilities of the USTKA shipyards to handle this project indicate that serial production of numerous Project 1258E minesweepers

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is technically feasible and is of interest to the shipyard. The basic hull construction materials, made of polyester-glass laminated plastics, would have to be produced domestically or imported from the USSR or GDR. For outfitting the minesweepers, some of the gear and mechanization serially produced in Poland or produced for Project 207 units could be utilized.

Final conclusions on the possibilities of undertaking this production in Poland, and its economic feasibility, should be worked out on the level of the Defense Industry Committee, after the producer becomes familiar with the technical-technological documentation of the vessel.

In the event serial production of Project 1258E inshore minesweeper begins in Poland (with possible GDR collaboration), it would be advisable to introduce this unit into Polish naval equipment in the "inshore minesweeper" subclass, which, together with mobilized fishing cutters adapted for antimine defense, would meet the inshore minesweeper strength stipulated in the protocol.

- 1.2 The proposal included in the protocol pertaining to the preparation of analyses and tactical-technical requirements for modifying ships built for Poland and USSR as mine barrier breachers can be fulfilled during 1982-83 within the framework of the Naval Technical Headquarters scientific-research work plan.

It is envisaged that specialists from the ship industry, the Polish Navy, and Maritime Technology Headquarters will be employed in this work. The coordination of standardized tactical-technical requirements is to take place within the framework of the CAF Technical Committee plan.

- 1.3 The Navy is currently conducting work on the modification of the B-410 fishing cutter for minesweeping missions. It is proposed to outfit the cutter with MT-3 contact and BGAT or AT-2 (AT-6) electric sweeping gear. The vessel

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has undergone sea trials with MT-3 sweeping gear. A sweeping gear steering mechanism with a power source for noncontact sweeping has been developed; the FAMOR plant in BYDGOSZCZ is to start serial production of it in 1983. Technical capabilities exist for outfitting the cutter with standardized sweeping gear and incorporating it into the armament of allied fleets. An appropriate recommendation may be made at the meeting of the CAF Technical Committee Working Group in 1983.

2. Sweeping gear.

- 2.1 The Polish partners will study the feasibility of starting production of the sweeping gear and the bangalore torpedo charges proposed in the protocol, upon receiving from the USSR construction-technological documentation and conducting consultations with industrial plants. Preconditions for starting production of the above-mentioned sweeping gear is a determination by parties concerned of their delivery requirements, and a cost-free transfer of licensing technical documentation from the USSR.
- 2.2 Because of the available supply of sweeping gear with which 206F and 254M minesweepers are to be outfitted, and the serviceability time limit of those minesweepers, the Navy does not see the necessity of refitting them with standardized sweeping gear.

Project 207 minesweepers, a prototype of which is currently undergoing qualification tests, will be equipped with low-magnetic sweeping gear especially planned for this unit. Their production is currently getting under way.

3. Towed sonar stations for detecting mines.

The Polish partners are conducting initial experimental-research work with towed sonar stations for detecting sea-bottom mines (Subject "RYBITWA") ["Sea Swallow"]. The Naval Technical Headquarters is assuming the task of developing standard tactical-technical requirements within the proposed 1982-1983 time frame suggested in initial USSR proposals. The possibilities,

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conditions, and scope of tripartite coordination in developing the new station will be established on this basis.

4. BLOTNIAK underwater vehicle.

The BLOTNIAK underwater vehicle is at the stage of going into production (a series of five by 1984). The Navy, within the framework of the work plan of its own technical progress, will initiate steps to improve the construction of the vehicle in accordance with recommendations of the working group dated 12 June 1981.

5. Methods of employing frogmen and their equipment.

The Navy command will organize a conference of allied fleet specialists in order to work out principles for tactical utilization of frogmen and to define equipment development. The proposed conference date is the third quarter of 1982.

6. Information recording and display apparatus and radio-sonar mine detecting trainers.

The above subject matter pertains to new, complex professional maritime electronics problems directed at special needs of antimine defense. The Polish partners will be able to present their views on their capability of implementing this undertaking as they become more familiar with related technical and construction problems. In accordance with the proposal in the protocol, the first stage will consist of working out, within the framework of domestic activities, a uniform set of tactical and technical requirements, and conducting an examination of possibilities of technical cooperation in this field with the German Democratic Republic. It is intended to examine a portion of this problem area, discussed above, in a study and research effort under the cryptonym LEBA.

COMMANDER

Admiral Ludwik JANCZYSZYN

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