

ITEM No 1784

3 July 1951
VI/5

POLAND

COMMUNICATIONS
WATERWAYS

The Iron Curtain technique is even applied to trusted Polish sailors and merchant marine officers. Polish freighters on regular runs change crews frequently and often without any prior notice. Returning crews are ordered to leave their ship within two hours and to report for duty on a new one and a new voyage the same day. Swedish friends of Polish sailors have waited in vain for their return, but have received letters from other ports of call indicating that their friends would not return for a long time.

Officers or crewmembers who are observed to have intimate foreign contacts are either refused sailing permits or transferred to coastal shipping duties.

DATE OF OBSERVATION : May to June 1951

EVAL. COMMENT : Source: fairly reliable.
Information: confirmed by
other sources.