

Viceministerial Changes

As stated in yesterday's Sit. Rep., Mieczyslaw Moczar seems to remain the man responsible for security matters at the Ministry of Interior.

Reportedly a textile worker at Lodz before the war, Moczar emerged during the German occupation of Poland as commander of Communist partisan units (People's Guard, then People's Army) in Kielce and Lublin voivodships. His memoirs pertaining to that period were recently published by the Ministry of Defense under the title "Shades of Fight" ("Barwy walki"). According to the testimony of Jozef Swiatlo, Moczar cooperated at that time with the Gestapo, but he did so on Soviet instructions. He was a Gomulka follower but not to the point of forgetting about his own skin, which he saved in November 1949 by rallying against Gomulka at the fateful CC Plenum. After the war he was chief of security service in the Lodz voivodship, then (1951-early 1956) chairman of voivodship People's Councils at Olsztyn, Bialystok and Warsaw. From April till December 1956 he headed the Ministry of State Farms, then he was appointed Deputy Minister of Interior. Here his rival Antoni Alster was considered the brain while Moczar was considered the strong arm of the security service. Alster's standing was higher, for he was an old Communist hand while Moczar was "only" a partisan whose Party career was of newer make. Moczar was appointed alternate member of the CC in March 1954, and only in July 1956 became full CC member.

His present position at the Ministry of Interior will not be weakened by addition of a new viceminister, the 41 year old Franciszek Szlachcic, wartime People's Guard officer, attached to security service as early as 1946, and lately Voivodship Commandant of People's Militia at Katowice. It looks now as if the executive powers of the security and intelligence services were concentrated in the hands of at least three People's Guard associates, Gen. Grzegorz Korczynski, Mieczyslaw Moczar and Franciszek Szlachcic, backed on the top of the Party hierarchy by Ryszard Strzelecki.

This by no means suggests that they will necessarily return to the brutal methods of the ill-famed Bezpieka. These men certainly detest everything which smacks of Stalinist oppression but they would also look

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with disgust at all the "liberal bourgeois nonsense." After all, they fought for Communist Poland during the war, and they would like to see the country more Communist than it is now.

In addition to Alster and Szlachcic, six deputy ministers and one director general were appointed. The ministries affected by the changes are mostly technical and economic (building, heavy industry, transport, posts and telecommunication). In two cases there are promotions from director general to deputy minister (both in the Ministry of Post and Telecommunications). In all the cases but one technologists are involved. Even in the case of non-technological Ministry of Higher Education, the new appointee, Prof. Stefan Minc is a prominent expert in nuclear energy. Exception, and the very interesting one, is the nomination of Stanislaw Dobosiewicz to the directorship general of the Ministry of Education. Once (about 1953-1955) director of that Ministry's department, Dobosiewicz was headmaster of the Polish (government controlled) Grammar School in Paris. His present promotion is a high and significant jump to almost viceministerial position.

Radio Warsaw (May 4) communique on the above appointments did not contain any reference to simultaneous recalls. This poses a question of whether several new positions (lines) have been established as might be logical to assume in some cases, for instance at the Ministry of Post and Telecommunications which heretofore had only one deputy minister. But the Ministry of Heavy Industry had five deputy ministers, and the new appointment would increase the number to six.

#### Tightening Up of Cultural Life

In the wake of Gomulka's attack against Western ways in Polish cultural life (cf. Sit. Rep. May 3), Olsen reported in the New York Times May 5 that in recent weeks several film scripts, previously tentatively approved, have been withdrawn from production schedules. Also three one-act plays of the country's leading satirical playwright Slawomir Mrozek, the author of the world-known "Police", were taken out of rehearsal. What Olsen failed to mention is the fact that two of these plays, "Strip-tease" and "At Sea" had already been staged by an avant-garde provincial theater. Presumably the rehearsals took place and were stopped in Warsaw. Olsen also reported that a mood of uncertainty is evident not only in the film but also in the television industry, and that two senior officials of the Warsaw TV outlet had resigned, giving personal reasons for their decision.



East German-Polish Trade Protocol

A protocol for 1962 trade exchange between East Germany and Poland was signed in East Berlin May 7, Radio Warsaw and the official East German agency ADN reported. The agreement stipulates a 10 per cent trade increase over 1961 and a 16 per cent increase over the volume originally planned in the long-term trade agreement. Poland will export coal, coke, zinc, rolled goods, agricultural produce and potatoes, Radio Warsaw stated. The singling out of potatoes which are part and parcel of agricultural produce may sound rather mysterious to an uninitiated reader. In fact, it seems to be intentional, even if slighting. At the same time it appears to confirm an earlier report of the West Berlin information gathering agency "Informationsbureau West" (iwe) of mid-March on a Polish-East German deal under which Poland had sold East Germany 40,000 tons of potatoes in exchange for 1,000 Wartburg cars, which deal reportedly brought about much dissatisfaction with and indignation about Polish hard bargaining with a friendly socialist country. In connection with the present protocol, Radio Warsaw -- as if to dot the "i" -- enumerated, among the items of Polish import from East Germany, 500 small-litragé Trabant cars.

Voivodship Party Conferences

Your attention is drawn to Background Report "The Annual Party Regional Meetings in Poland in 1962: an Analysis of Their Significance" issued today. In connection with the contents of this Report, and particularly with the last paragraph on page 4, please disregard our remarks made in Sit. Rep. March 19 on the alleged insignificance of Zenon Nowak. It turns out that Radio Warsaw had made a slip since Zenon Nowak did not participate at the Opole conference. Our wrong conclusion was based on that slip.