

16

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POLAND

COMMUNIST PARTY AND ORGANIZATIONS (600)  
Inner Life (0604)  
Personalities (0606)

Marceli NOWOTKO Story  
BIERUT's Private Life  
FORNALSKI Family  
Miscellaneous

SOURCE MUNICH: Miss Irena BORN, former member of the KPP, who knew most of the Polish Communist VIP's personally.

DATE OF OBSERVATION: From the early thirties until recent time.

EVAL. COMMENT: Information obtained from direct interview of the evaluator with the source.

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Who killed Marceli NOWOTKO?

On 28 November 1952 a solemn celebration of the 10th anniversary of the death of Marceli NOWOTKO, former secretary general of the PPR (Polish Workers Party - Communist,) took place in WARSAW and in the whole country.

On this occasion a new version on the circumstances of the death of NOWOTKO was given by the Polish press. It was stated that NOWOTKO had been killed on the orders of GOMULKA. According to this new version, GOMULKA gave orders to a Communist Edward MOLOJEC.

It is interesting to note that this version appeared only now, because so far it was only vaguely mentioned that NOWOTKO perished by a brotherly hand, but no name

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1

of the killer, nor political motives for the murder were given.

This new version amazed those who knew the heroes of the story. To them the statement that it was GOMULKA who gave orders to the murderer seems to be a pure nonsense. It is possible that it was Edward MOLOJEC who killed NOWOTKO; the question remains, however, who had given the order. Some light may be thrown upon it by reviewing personal characteristics of NOWOTKO and MOLOJEC.

NOWOTKO Marcelli was a true worker, an old Polish Communist, who belonged to the so-called "middle active" before the war, and he had no say in major Party decisions. His first contact with the Soviet reality took place in 1939 only, when the USSR occupied the Eastern part of Poland. It is known that in the years 1939/1940 NOWOTKO was at BIALYSTOK. He lived in an apartment in common with some other Communists, not members of his family, but Party friends. He did not cover his disillusion with the Soviet way of life. He made more than one critical comment on social injustice, on the differentiation in living standard, various categories of food allotments according to the position held either in the Party or within the Soviet bureaucracy, or Army. Once he was very indignant when commenting a Soviet official's behavior in respect of the latter's subordinates. NOWOTKO was surprised to note a sort of contempt toward subordinates inherent in any remark of the official. Once NOWOTKO got drunk and was heard to say: "These Stalinists, they can lick my .... I've got my own brains." ("Mam w ..... wszystkich stalinowcow, ja mam swoj własny rozum.")

Once, when still at BIALYSTOK, NOWOTKO received a letter from BIERUT, who was then either in MOSCOW or in some part of Soviet occupied Poland. In that letter BIERUT admitted that he never had experienced so much humiliation. ("Nigdy nie najadłem się tylu upokorzeń.") This humiliation might have come either from the WKP(b) officials or from some Soviet politicians entrusted with Polish affairs.

In 1942 NOWOTKO was parachuted in Poland from MOSCOW, and entrusted, with a few other Polish Communists, with the task of founding a new Polish Communist Party, known as PPR (Polish Workers Party.) There is hardly any doubt that Soviet Party officials knew NOWOTKO's views. They must have known that he was a type of a true Polish worker Communist ("robociarz"), that he was not a blind follower of STALIN, and had an independent judgment. In his political views he was close to GOMULKA, another Polish Communist assigned the task of founding the PPR. NOWOTKO was known among Polish workers and trusted by them. So, it was convenient to

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2

MOSCOW to send such a man among Polish workers, who were not an easy stuff to be modeled according to the Soviet pattern. It was important to MOSCOW to have any sort of Communist Party in Poland at that time. The job might have been done by Polish Communists only, not by MOSCOW agents. Once this was done, MOSCOW might have got rid of those who could not be trusted. It is, of course, a suggestion, a speculation rather than a statement, but this suggestion has a logical basis and may be correct.

Another link in reasoning on these lines is served by reviewing the personality of the alleged killer of NOWOTKO: MOLOJEC Edward.

MOLOJEC returned to MOSCOW after the Spanish civil war. He was leader of the well-known DABROWSKI group ("Dabrowszczakow.") Although 100 per cent Pole, he was also 100 per cent loyal to STALIN. Known to be extremely disciplined, he was ready to carry out any order of the Party. Taciturn and self-possessed, he was often referred to as a model of discipline and an example to follow. Although he had no formal education (he was a self-taught man,) he was well-read and sufficiently intelligent. Contrary to almost all former DABROWSKI brigade soldiers who sought refuge in MOSCOW after the victory of FRANCO, MOLOJEC approved of everything STALIN did, and never was heard to venture a critical comment. In 1939 or in 1940 he was sent to some special secret school near MOSCOW, which fact surprised nobody, for MOLOJEC had a good military record. In 1941 or in 1942 he was parachuted in Poland with some important tasks entrusted to him. It is interesting to note that at that time nothing had been heard yet in MOSCOW about the PPR or about the intention of founding this party. MOLOJEC became a member of the KC PPR (Central Committee Polish Workers Party,) in which capacity he had or should have had a direct contact with NOWOTKO, who was secretary general.

It was said at a time that NOWOTKO was murdered in a settlement of some personal accounts. If this version is true, it is difficult to assume that it was MOLOJEC who killed NOWOTKO for personal motives, for these motives would not influence him to such an extent. MOLOJEC was known to have devoted himself entirely to the Party. When he was parachuted in Poland he had left in MOSCOW his wife and a child a few months old. If he really killed NOWOTKO, he did it on the orders of the Party, of the WKP(b), it must be stressed, not of the PPR, for his Party was the Soviet one.

There is one point which may be used by the partisans of the theory that GOMULKA had given orders to kill NOWOTKO. It is the mere fact that GOMULKA succeeded NOWOTKO

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3

on the post of secretary general of the Party. This coincidence does not, however, explain the motives which would influence GOMULKA to give orders for murder. No personal or political quarrels between GOMULKA and NOWOTKO are known, on the contrary it is obvious that these two men had much in common: they were both Polish Communists, critical of the Soviet policy, and both opposing a subjugation of Poland to the USSR.

#### BIERUT's Family Affairs

BIERUT Boleslaw, former President of the Polish People's Republic, now its Prime Minister, had three wives:

1. BIERUTOWA (her maiden and first name are unknown to source,) whom he married a long time before World War II. He had a daughter and a son with her, and he deserted her a few years before the war. The marriage was perfectly legal.

2. FORMALSKA Malgorzata (cover name "Jasia,") with whom he lived without a formal marriage and had a daughter with, Olenka. This second wife of BIERUT was arrested by the Gestapo in November 1943 together with FINDER Pawel, and liquidated. For further details referring to Malgorzata and her daughter Olenka, see chapter "FORMALSKI Family."

3. GORSKA Wanda, the present wife of BIERUT. She was member of the Communist Party still before the war. BIERUT fell in love with her under the German occupation, after the death of FORMALSKA. GORSKA became BIERUT's secretary, went with him to MOSCOW to join the ZPP (Union of Polish Patriots,) then came to LUBLIN. The first, legal wife of BIERUT who did not stop to consider herself his only wife, particularly after he became president, is said to have made serious difficulties in divorce proceedings. Eventually, however, she consented to divorcing her legal husband, who then married GORSKA.

BIERUT is said to give himself much air of importance. It is a known fact that all people called to see him have to be clean shaven and well dressed. This rule applies also to his old Party friends. When BIERUT became president he chose the Belvedere were almost all those who had been employed there for many years and remembered well their old master PILSUDSKI. They commented on BIERUT's behavior as follows: "PILSUDSKI was a true democrat, he always used to say 'good morning' first, and this one (BIERUT) does not care even to answer a 'good morning.'"

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4

FORNALSKI Family

Mrs. Marojanna FORMALSKA is much honored nowadays in Poland. On 28 January 1952, during the celebration of the 10th anniversary of the PZPR (former PPR) she was given a place of honor among Communist VIP's, and the press did not miss her name in the reports. It was stressed that she was mother to Malgorzata FORMALSKA, a Communist hero now, who perished by Gestapo hands.

FORMALSKA Marojanna is known among Polish Communists as "mother of Communists" (matka komunistow,) or as "grandmother Fornalska" ("babcia Fornalska.")

She, in fact, was mother of four Polish Communists, two sons Marek and Stanislaw, and two daughters Felicja and Malgorzata. She is also grandmother of Olenka, daughter of Malgorzata and of BIERUT.

In the late thirties the whole family, with the exception of Malgorzata, took refuge in MOSCOW. Malgorzata, the illegal wife of BIERUT, could not come, for she was imprisoned in Poland for her Communist activities. The child of the couple, Olenka, born in or about 1936 was taken care of by the old Mrs. Marojanna FORMALSKA.

The whole family lived at Lux, a huge apartment building in which Komintern people were given accommodation. The waves of arrests which flooded Soviet Russia at that time did not spare the FORMALSKI family. One by one, the daughter Felicja and two sons of Marojanna, Marek and Stanislaw were arrested. All the children of Marojanna were now under arrest, three of them in a Soviet jail, the fourth Malgorzata, nicknamed "Jasia," in a Polish prison.

The only members of the family who were left in peace were the child Olenka and her grandmother Marojanna. The grandmother knew what would happen next. She would be arrested, and her granddaughter given to a State kindergarten. "Grandmother Fornalska" went to the "Rajkom" (Party District Committee,) and made a "pekayanye." She declared that she was much indignant with the fate which let her give birth to such traitors as her three children: Marek, Stanislaw and Felicja. She renounced any family link with them, she did not want to know them any more. It helped a bit. She was not arrested, but she was deprived of her and her granddaughter's right to live in Lux.

It is not known who and at what cost did she endure the succeeding years. She is now in Poland, and so is

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5

Olenka. Out of the four children Mrs. FORMALSKA had, only one, Felicja, is alive. She is also in Poland now. Felicja was released from a Soviet prison or camp sometime during the war, and repatriated to Poland in 1945 or 1946. She was met then by an old friend of hers and asked about her brothers, Marek and Stanislaw. "Oh, honey, do not ask please" - answered Felicja ("Oh, szlitenko, nie pytaj.") Once BIERUT, the President of a friendly People's Republic, tried to get some news about the fate of his brothers-in-law. Silence was the only answer he received from his Soviet masters. This silence might have told him a lot.

#### Miscellaneous.

MIETKOWSKI Mieczyslaw, Polish deputy Minister of Public Security, took part in the Spanish civil war, and automatically belonged to the DABROWSKI group. After the Spanish war he came to MOSCOW and worked with the Foreign Languages Publishing House. He was known to all employees of the House to be in constant touch with the NKVD. His military record from the time of the Spanish war was not quite clear. He worked then with a quartermaster office, always behind the lines. DABROWSKI group members very often alluded to some misfortune MIETKOWSKI had had with a sum of money, and used to ask him in a friendly manner for details of the affair. MIETKOWSKI is known to have never given a definite answer. In such cases he used to switch over to some other subject. It is supposed that the sum was not significant, otherwise MIETKOWSKI would have been punished, for the discipline in the DABROWSKI brigade was rather strong. During World War II MIETKOWSKI was appointed chief of the political educational department of the BERLING Army.

WOLSKI Wladyslaw (real name PIOWARCZYK Antoni,) said to be under arrest now, was used by the former Soviet Ambassador in WARSAW, LEBEDEV, as a tool against BIERUT. WOLSKI's wife, BOBINSKA Celina (she did not change her name after her marriage) was very friendly with Mrs. LEBEDEV. WOLSKI attacked BIERUT openly in 1949 or in 1950 on the usual Party issue (lack of zeal, imperfectness of measures, etc.)

The KATYN murder was commented upon by the soldiers of BERLING Army in the USSR in a uniform manner. At that time everybody believed the Soviet version. It was said that it was not the Soviet method to murder people en masse. The Soviets put those whom they want to liquidate to a labor camp first and make them work until they die. It should be stressed that the BERLING Army consisted to almost

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6

100 per cent of former inmates of Soviet labor camps who were under fresh influence of their experiences. When the army marched through SMOLENSK, a Holy Mass was arranged for the souls of the victims. It was celebrated by Rev. KUPSZ, who was liquidated as early as 1944.

The WARSAW rising of 1944 was viewed upon by an average soldier of the BERLING Army as an unfortunate, but necessary event. Radio "Kosciuszko"s" appeal to arms, addressed to the population of WARSAW was heard by or known to everybody. It was a general feeling that the rising should be helped 100 per cent. When the Soviet help did not materialize, it was explained to the rank and file that there were serious strategic reasons which obstructed the crossing of the Vistula river, but that everything was being done to arrange for help. Later on rumors started about a treason, and after a time it became an official version. The leaders of the AK were accused of high treason etc.

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