

# RADIO FREE EUROPE *Research*

## EAST EUROPE

Poland/38  
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#### May Day Celebrations

The May Day speeches and parades in Warsaw and in the provinces did not produce any spectacular indication of the split between the Party leadership and the Partisan faction. However, there was more than one sign that the inner Party struggle is far from being over.

Well prepared and conspicuously well directed, the "central" parade in Warsaw produced what was, on the face of it, a show of Party unity and of the nation's support for the Party policy and for its leader "Comrade Wieslaw" (countless posters referred in these warm terms to First Party Secretary Wladyslaw Gomulka). But along with such posters, there were those which read "Purge the Party of Zionists!" Such indiscriminate demands were in clear conflict with Gomulka's warning regarding the recent purges. "It is important that we should be able to distinguish the grain of sound criticism from the chaff of irresponsible statements," he said in his May Day speech.

This speech was moderate in tone with respect to the internal situation but sharp vis-a-vis external political and ideological opponents. Gomulka stressed that the working people of the whole country support the policy of the Party and the program of the National Unity Front. However, such policy "does not appeal, and will never appeal, to those for whom socialism represents a hostile idea, to whom Poland, its existence and its future, represent something to which they feel indifferent or something subordinated to their anti-Communist, variegated ideology, and to their egotistic class interests." It is the people of this ilk, Gomulka continued,

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who "have been the instigators and organizers of the recent events directed against our Party, against our socialist state." In an obvious, though veiled, reference to Czechoslovakia, Gomulka charged that these people, "alleged champions of freedom and democracy," but in fact "reactionaries and backward elements, preachers of anti-Communist ideology, are waging a struggle against socialism, not only with us, but also in other socialist countries."

There were at least two references indicating that Gomulka realized who his actual and/or potential political rivals are. Speaking about production pledges on the occasion of the forthcoming Fifth Party Congress, Gomulka did not fail to stress that these pledges had been initiated by the workers of Silesia and of the Dabrowa Basin -- an obvious compliment to Silesian Party leader Edward Gierek. Among the addressees of May Day "warm greetings" (student and working youth, soldiers and officers of the army), Gomulka singled out "militiamen, ORMO (militia reserve) members, and workers of the internal security apparatus, who -- while serving the nation -- guard peace and public order," rather unusual and extensive praise addressed to Minister of the Interior Mieczyslaw Moczar, who happens also to be the leader of the powerful Partisan faction.

As for "external enemies," Gomulka criticized "the huge propaganda apparatus of imperialism, designed to weaken and disrupt the moral and political unity of the communities of the socialist countries." In this connection, he stressed that "the struggle against hostile bourgeois ideology" has become "the leading task." As usual, Gomulka attacked the "militarist and revanchist policy of the Bonn government," condemned "the aggressive and adventurous policy of the state of Israel," and again confirmed Poland's support of the Arab countries. This stand "has touched off vicious, reckless attacks on Poland from international Zionism," and accusations of anti-Semitism. "The official US agencies have also dipped their fingers in the dirty Zionist, anti-Polish campaign," Gomulka complained. He had more to say on this subject: "The United States has several million citizens of Polish origin. On the other hand, Poland has about 25,000 to 30,000 citizens of Jewish origin. We suggest to the US ruling circles which make statements accusing Poland of anti-Semitism that they find out whether, in respect to living conditions, education, and getting responsible positions, the US citizens of Polish origin have had and now have the same opportunities as those of which Polish citizens of Jewish origin have been, and are now, able to avail themselves." Gomulka further referred to racial discrimination, to the murder of Dr. Martin Luther King, and -- needless to say -- to the "aggression of American imperialism" in Vietnam. (Throughout these attacks, US Ambassador John A. Gronouski stood among the crowd of diplomats, UPI reported.)



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Radio Warsaw coverage of the celebrations indicated that this mass medium is still controlled by the Partisan faction. It gave the full list of Politburo and CC Secretariat members present on the reviewing stand (all, including Edward Ochab, were there, except for Gierek -- whose speech at the Katowice celebration was broadcast live, the only case of a provincial Party secretary being singled out for such distinction -- and Adam Rapacki, who is ill), as well as of the leaders of the "allied" parties (the United Peasant Party and the Democratic Party). The names of only two ministers were given, however: Defense Minister Wojciech Jaruzelski and Moczar. To be sure, some ministers were marching in the parade at the head of their personnel, such as Minister of Internal Trade Edward Sznajder, but there certainly were more than two on the reviewing stand. "With particular cordiality, respect and appreciation, we greet, in the May Day march, the members of the Main Board of ZBoWiD" (Moczar's Veterans' Association), the Radio Warsaw reporter stressed. In another case, he referred to "the several-hundred-strong group of the members and employees of the Pax association" (in the past, this pro-regime Catholic organization, strongly allied with the Moczar faction was never mentioned in connection with the May Day parade). In a rather amusing way, radio and TV network chief Wlodzimierz Sokorski was reported to be marching at the head of the personnel of these media. The group included "the members of the radio and TV circle of ZBoWiD," the reporter said. (Sokorski is under attack by the Partisan faction.)

However, due respects were paid to the three leading personalities: Gomulka, State Council Chairman Marshal Marian Spychalski, and Premier Jozef Cyrankiewicz. Radio Warsaw reporters never failed to stress their presence on the reviewing stand or their portraits being carried by the marchers and/or displayed elsewhere. Much attention was also devoted to the march-past of students of Warsaw University and of the Polytechnical Institute. However, UPI reported that these groups "marched on the far side of the wide boulevard, away from the reviewing stand." Reuter added that these students "showed little enthusiasm and carried few banners, apart from those borne by leaders saying 'No place at Warsaw University for political instigators!'"

#### Purges, Dismissals, Appointments

Not only does the regime's anti-Semitic campaign continue unabated, but it is now assuming still more virulent forms.

Dropping all anti-Zionist pretense, the basic Party organization in the Cooperative Works of the Garment Industry, as reported by the local Koszalin daily, Glos Koszalin, of April 19, "gauged the attitudes of Polish citizens of Jewish origin." In the "lively"

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discussion, Polish citizens of Jewish origin were accused of not having taken part in the meeting which had condemned the organizers of the March excesses and of "having failed clearly to define their attitudes following the Israeli aggression."

J. Wajsbart, U. Szytli, T. Plauner and A. Cigler were ousted from the PUWP by unanimous vote.

Glos Robotniczy, the Lodz (Poland's second largest city and the center of its textile industry) Party daily reported on April 19 (as quoted by a UPI dispatch from Warsaw of April 30) that at a factory meeting, "Poles of Jewish extraction" were also blamed for "non-attendance at a meeting during which the organizers of the March excesses were condemned" and also for "not having openly declared their attitudes" during the Middle East war, accusations which bear a striking resemblance to those reported by the above-mentioned issue of Glos Koszalin.

The same UPI dispatch reports on a tragically ironic case of "10 other Jews in Lodz having been expelled from the Party, because "some of them accused the Party of conducting an anti-Semitic campaign," (emphasis supplied).

The same paper, in its April 29 issue, announced, as reported by the UPI, Reuter, the NYT (Jonathan Randal's correspondence), all datelined April 30, that two history professors of Lodz University were also expelled from the Party. Dr. Pawel Korzec, of the Modern History Chair, "overtly began to display Zionist longings," when he returned from Israel in 1956. He was also accused of charging the nation with having anti-Semitic traditions and, while giving a Marxist interpretation of Polish history, of putting a nationalistic interpretation on Israeli history. He "was recommended" to be dismissed from his post.

The other professor, Dr. Leon Tadeusz Blaszczyk, who reportedly offered to resign as director of the Institute of History, was accused of using his Party membership to get his post and then ignoring Party duties. Jonathan Randal stresses that both professors are Jews. He also quotes unspecified Lodz newspapers (in his correspondence of April 29, NYT of the following day) that eight journalists and printing officials in Lodz had been either purged or recommended for dismissal from their posts; no names were given, but Randal emphasized that "many of those dismissed were Jews."

Janusz Zarzycki, who on 28 December 1967 retired from the post of chairman of the Warsaw City National Council, and whose



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daughter was unjustly accused of having been involved in the student demonstrations (cf. Polish SR/17, Radio Free Europe Research, March 11), was ousted from the membership of the PUWP Warsaw City Committee, Radio Warsaw reported on April 18.

The basic Party organization at the Office of the Public Prosecutor of Lodz Voivodship dismissed from the Party Deputy Prosecutor Ignacy Pankowski, and decided, after a "penetrating discussion," to ask the Public Prosecutor of Lodz Voivodship to dismiss Pankowski from his post. (Radio Warsaw, April 19)

### East-West Contacts

The former commander of the famous Polish Squadron 303 (of the RAF during the last war), Group Captain Witold Lokuciewski, is now visiting England at the invitation of an air marshal of the RAF in connection with the celebrations of the 50th anniversary of the British air force, Radio Warsaw reported on April 30.

The Polish state purchasing enterprise Motoimport has placed an order worth 518,400 dollars with the British firm Birlec, of Aldridge, for equipment for a new factory building Fiat cars under license, an RFE Special from London reported on April 30.