

FEB 20

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RADIO FREE EUROPE  
MUNICHINCOMING CIPHER MESSAGETO: 

NYC 71 20 FEB 68

TO NOWAK INFO ZAWADZKI WALTER

FROM WAGNER INFO WASIUTYNSKI SCHNEIDER KAUFMANN

409 PM

THIS IS TO ADVISE YOU THAT WE ARE STILL WAITING FOR HENRYK GRYNBERG'S REPLY. IF I DON'T HEAR FROM HIM TODAY I SHALL PHONE HIM ON WEDNESDAY.

HERE ARE SOME PERSONAL DATA AND GENERAL INFORMATION RECEIVED FROM HIM. HENRYK GRYNBERG WAS BORN IN 1936 NEAR WARSAW IN A POOR JEWISH FAMILY. DURING THE NEZI PERSECUTION HIS FATHER AND BORTHER PERISHED. HE AND HIS MOTHER WERE ABLE TO SURVIVE HIDING AND PASSING FOR POLES THANKS TO HELP THEY RECEIVED FROM POLISH FRIENDS AND STRANGERS. GRYNBERG'S BOOK "WOJNA ZYDOWSKA" IS HIGHLY AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL.

HE WAS RAISED AND EDUCATED IN WARSAW. HE STUDIED JOURNALISM, BUT NEVER ACTUALLY BECAME A JOURNALIST, AT LEAST AVOIDED MENTIONING IT.

IT SEEMS THAT IN HIS PARENTS GENERATION AT LEAST ONE MEMBER OF THE FAMILY HELD COMMUNIST VIEWS AND WAS SENTENCED TO WRONKI PRISON BEFORE WORLD WAR TWO.

HENRYK GRYNBERG TOLD ME HE WAS ABLE TO STUDY JOURNALISM ONLY BECAUSE OF THE SUPPORT GIVEN TO HIM IN 1954 BY KASMAN, THE NOW PURGED EDITOR IN CHIEF OF "TRYBUNA LUDU". GRYNBERG WAS GRATEFUL TO KASMAN FOR HIS PATRONAGE. HE IS ALSO  
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GRATEFUL TO JAROSLAW IWASZKIEWICZ FOR THE FAVORABLE REVIEW OF HIS BOOK "WOJNA ZYDOWSKA" PRINTED IN "ZYCIE WARSZAWY" ON MAY 1ST 1967.

GRYNBERG WAS ASSOCIATED WITH THE JEWISH THEATRE IN POLAND AFTER HAVING BEEN TAUGHT ACTING BY MADAME IDA KAMINSKA WHO A FEW YEARS AGO HAD A SMALL "ACTORS STUDIO" OF HER OWN TRYING TO TRAIN YOUNG JEWISH ACTORS. HIS TRAINING FOR THE STAGE WAS LIMITED TO THIS. HE DID NOT STUDY DRAMA AS ALL ACTORS IN POLAND. IT SEEMS GRYNBERG DID NOT PLAY ANY MAJOR PART ON THE STAGE. DR. LICHTEN OF THE ANTI-DEFAMATION LEAGUE WHO SAW THE KAMINSKI THEATRE IN NEW YORK TOLD ME HOW INSIGNIFICANT A ROLE GRYNBERG WAS ACTUALLY PLAYING.

THIS PROBABLY IS ONE REASON WHY HE PREFERENCES TO BE REFERRED TO AS A YOUNG POLISH WRITER - NOT A STAGE ACTOR. ANOTHER REASON IS THAT HE IS AVOIDING AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE TO CAUSE PREJUDICE TO THE JEWISH THEATRE OF MADAME KAMINSKA IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT HE MADE HIS TRIP TO THE USA AS A MEMBER OF THIS GROUP AND WHILE ON THIS TRIP DECIDED NOT TO RETURN TO POLAND.

GRYNBERG MADE THIS DECISION KNOWN WELL AFTER THE JEWISH ACTORS LEFT NEW YORK FOR POLAND IN DECEMBER 1967. HE DID NOT ADVISE OF HIS DECISION EITHER IDA KAMINSKA  
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OR ANYBODY ELSE IN ADVANCE. ANYWAY THEY DID NOT EXPECT HIM TO JOIN THE WHOLE GROUP ON THE WAY BACK TO POLAND SINCE IT WAS AGREED GRYNBERG WOULD VISIT HIS MOTHER WHO LIVES IN CALIFORNIA. HE WAS TO MAKE THE CALIFORNIA TRIP AFTER THE NEW YORK



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THEATER'S PERFORMANCES WERE OVER.

HENRYK GRYNBERG HAD PREVIOUSLY PAID HIS MOTHER TWO VISITS  
STAYING FOR THE LAST TIME OVER 4 MONTHS. THIS WAS AFTER THE  
JEWISH THEATRE PERFORMANCES IN ARGENTINA SOME YEARS AGO.

GRYNBERG'S MOTHER REMARRIED AND HAS A TEENAGE SON FROM HER  
SECOND MARRIAGE. HER NAME IS MRS. SOPHIE POWAZEK (POWONZEK).  
HER HUSBAND OWNS A LIQUOR STORE IN LOS ANGELES.

HAVING MADE SOME MONEY SHE EMIGRATED IN 1957 TO ISRAEL,  
BUT EVENTUALLY PREFERRED TO LIVE IN THE UNITED STATES WHERE SHE  
HAS BEEN SINCE 1960. SHE IS NOW AN AMERICAN CITIZEN AS WELL  
AS HER HUSBAND.

THEY SEEM TO LIVE QUITE AN AFFLUENT LIFE IN A RESIDENTIAL  
DISTRICT OF BEVERLY HILLS. THE POWAZEK FAMILY (OF THREE)  
PLUS GRYNBERG AND HIS WIFE OWN TWO CARS  
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AND COMPLAIN THEY SHOULD HAVE A THIRD ONE.

HENRYK GRYNBERG IS STILL TECHNICALLY A CITIZEN OF PEOPLE'S  
POLAND /VALID PASSPORT/ BUT HAS APPLIED FOR THE STATUS OF A  
PERMANENT U.S. RESIDENT, AS WELL AS HIS WIFE. SHE IS KRYSZYNA  
BORN WALCZAK A YOUNG POLISH ACTRESS /OF NON-JEWISH DESCENT/.  
SHE PLAYED ON STAGE WITH EICHLEROWNA, ALSO ON TELEVISION SHOWS  
/"KABARET STARSZYCH PANOW" ETC./ AND IN SOME MOVING PICTURES.  
SHE WAS KNOWN AND POPULAR IN POLAND. /"PRZEKROJ"/.

IN CALIFORNIA SHE HAS NOW STARTED WORKING AS A BEAUTICIAN.  
HENRYK GRYNBERG'S WIFE SEEMS TO HAVE CONSIDERABLE INFLUENCE ON  
HIM WHO HESITATED BEFORE TAPING HIS STATEMENT, SPELLING OUT THE  
REASONS OF HIS DEFECTION - UNTIL HE CONSULTED WITH HER.

AT PRESENT HENRYK GRYNBERG IS DOING NO GAINFUL WORK... INVITED  
BY THE RUSSIAN INSTITUTE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA /LOS  
ANGELES/ HE DELIVERED A LECTURE IN ENGLISH ON POLISH LITERATURE.  
I ASKED HIM TO SEND ME THE SCRIPT BUT HE CLAIMS THERE IS NOTHING  
OF INTEREST FOR US. HE HAS YET NO SPECIFIC PLANS FOR THE FUTURE  
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/OR DID NOT WANT TO DISCLOSE THEM FOR THE TIME BEING/.

IN ADDITION TO WHATEVER HE MIGHT CONTRIBUTE TO RFE /INFORMATION  
AND PROGRAMS/ HE INTENDS IN A COUPLE OF MONTHS TO WRITE AN ESSAY  
ON EXPERIENCE AS A WRITER IN POLAND FOR THE PARIS MONTHLY "KULTURA".  
GRYNBERG HAS NOT YET GOT IN TOUCH WITH "KULTURA" AND DID NOT EVEN  
KNOW THE NAME OF ITS EDITOR BUT HE IS HIGHLY IMPRESSED BY  
THE PRESTIGE THIS PUBLICATION ENJOYS IN POLAND.

HE SHOWED ME ONE OF THE BOOKS PUBLISHED BY "KULTURA" WHICH HE  
SOMEHOW ACQUIRED IN POLAND AND BROUGHT WITH HIM TO AMERICA.

GRYNBERG HAS ALREADY TAPED FOR RFE A STATEMENT ON WHY HE  
DEFFECTED AND HE WROTE AN ELEVEN PAGE LONG STORY ON HIS UNPLEASANT  
EXPERIENCE WITH REGIME CENSORSHIP.

HIS ATTITUDE TOWARDS RFE HAS BEEN FIRENDLY.

HE WAS GRATEFUL FOR THE FAVORABLE REVIEW OF HIS BOOK "WOJNA  
ZYDOWSKA" IN 1967 AND WAS GRATEFUL TO THE EXILE COMMUNITY FOR THE  
"KOSCIELSKI AWARD" HIS BOOK RECEIVED FROM A POLISH JURY IN  
SWITZERLAND.  
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GRYNBERG INTENDS PUBLISHING "WOJNA ZYDOWSKA" IN ENGLISH AND IS IN TOUCH WITH TRANSLATOR CELINA WIENIESKA IN LONDON.

I MADE FOR HIM 2 PHOTOCOPIES OF THIS 88 PAGE LONG BOOK.

IN ADDITION TO HIS OWN WRITINGS GRYNBERG HAS ALSO TRANSLATED A NUMBER OF YIDDISH STAGE PLAYS INTO POLISH.

HE IS VERY CONSCIOUS OF HIS JEWISHNESS AND AT THE SAME TIME CONSIDERS HIMSELF A POLISH WRITER.

HIS PROTEST AGAINST GOMULKA'S ANTI-ISRAELI POLICY DOES NOT RESULT FROM HIS ZIONIST FEELINGS SINCE HE CLAIMS TO HAVE NONE BUT FROM THE REJECTION OF THE JEWS BY THE REGIME.

ASKED TO EXPLAIN HOW GOMULKA, SPYCHALSKI, OCHAB ETC. CAN FOLLOW THIS POLICY  
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WHILE HAVING JEWISH WIVES- GRYNBERG REPLIES HALF JOKINGLY THAT THIS VERY FACT MIGHT HAVE MADE THEM ANTI-SEMITIC, IF ALL THESE LADIES ARE SUCH UNBEARABLE SHREWS AS SOPHIE UNSCHLICHT, MARRIED TO GOMULKA.

GRYNBERG HAS HEARD OF SOME PRIVATE PARTIES IN WARSAW TO CELEBRATE ISRAEL'S VICTORY OVER THE ARABS BUT IS UNABLE TO NAME ANY SPECIFIC ONE. ALLEGEDLY THERE WAS SOME CELEBRATION AT MRS. OCHAB'S, BUT HE IS NOT SURE WHETHER THESE RUMORS WERE TRUE. HE IS MORE POSITIVE BUT ALSO NOT QUITE CERTAIN ABOUT A PARTY AT WHAT HE CALLS "SPOLDZIELNIA DZIENIKARSKA" /JOURNALISTS COOPERATIVE/.

OF THE PURGE IN THE AIR FORCE AND ARMY GRYNBERG KNOWS NOTHING. HE HAD NO COMMENT ON KASMAN'S REMOVAL. HE GREETED WITH SATISFACTION THE DEMOTION OF KOCIOLEK SINCE KOCIOLEK WAS AN "ENEMY OF CULTURE AND OF THE WRITERS" AND DID NOT CONCEAL IT.

GRYNBERG KNOWS NOTHING ABOUT INTERNAL RIVALRIES WITHIN THE COMMUNIST PARTY, THE RELATIONSHIP OF GOMULKA AND MOCZAR, GIEREK, STRZELECKI ETC. KNOWS NOTHING ABOUT A POSSIBLE CHANGE OF LEADERSHIP.

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ASKED ABOUT REGIME ANTI-JEWISH REPRISALS AFTER THE ARAB-ISRAELI WAR HE ONLY MENTIONED ONE NAME, THAT OF LEMANSKA WHO WAS REMOVED FROM "KRONIKA FILMOWA" BECAUSE THE OFFICIAL MOVIE NEWSREEL REFERRED TO THE ARAB-ISRAELI WAR AS "CONFLICT" -WHEREAS IT SHOULD HAVE BEEN REFERRED TO AS "ISRAELI AGGRESSION".

HENRYK GRYNBERG ALSO TELLS OF 3 YOUNG JEWISH JOURNALISTS /WITHOUT GIVING THEIR NAMES/ WHO FOLLOWING THE JUNE WAR WERE BANNED FROM WRITING IN THE YOUTH COLUMN /DODATEK/ OF THE YIDDISH LANGUAGE PUBLICATION "NASZ GLOS". INCIDENTALLY THIS COLUMN /DODATEK/ WAS PUBLISHED IN POLISH NOT IN YIDDISH. SUBSEQUENTLY THE BAN ON TWO OF THE THREE YOUNG WRITERS HAS BEEN LIFTED BUT THE THIRD ONE WAS STILL UNABLE TO FIND ANY EDITORIAL WORK WHEN GRYNBERG LEFT WARSAW IN THE FALL OF 1967.

HE CLAIMS THAT THE VERY POPULAR WEEKLY "PRZEKROJ" WAS TO BE CLOSED DOWN BUT ESCAPED LIQUIDATION BECAUSE OF ITS POPULARITY AND BECAUSE THE EDITORS WENT VERY FAR IN SELF-CRITICISM SUBMITTED TO THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE PARTY.

ACCORDING TO GRYNBERG MOST EDITORS OF THE PERIODICAL "SWIAT" WERE OF JEWISH ORIGIN.

NEXT MESSAGE WILL DEAL WITH THE JEWISH THEATRE IN POLAND.  
END MSG