

A Test Pilot Escapes to West Berlin

A Polish jet fighter test pilot, Air Force Major Ryszard Obasz, 34, his wife Maria, 27, and their two sons, Leszek, 9, and Krzysztof, 5, landed at the West Berlin airport Tempelhof July 10 in the afternoon and asked for political asylum, Western agencies reported. The family took off in a two-seater TS-Bies training plane from Nadarzyce (Walcz district, Koszalin voivodship) and by flying low succeededⁱⁿ avoiding detection by radar. Major Obacz stated at a press conference that he had fled West for greater personal freedom, and that all he desired was to go to a place where he could enjoy "open friendship". He also said that "morale in the Air Force is very bad", that "most officers are fed up just as I was. We want the right to travel where we want to, the right of free speech, the right to work for a good cause".

Report on Security Service

"Ideological diversion" is the chief threat to Poland at present, but security forces take successful "preventive action" against the activities of "imperialists", Deputy Minister of Interior in charge of security matters Mieczyslaw Moczar stated in a speech to GP leaders, according to Reuter quoting "Trybuna Ludu" of July 10. Moczar referred to several institutes at a number of American universities, which "have as their goal psychological warfare against Communism". Another weapon, he added, is Radio Free Europe. "Imperialists", Moczar stated, were counting upon people in Poland who were "either enemies of socialism or weak people", but "security people had talks with many citizens who through lack of experience or carelessness were getting into contact with enemies of People's Poland".

RFE files show that the control and scrutiny of Polish travelers abroad has intensified lately. These travelers are briefed before their trip, private or business, about how they should behave while abroad and warned against any contacts with persons who might be connected with RFE. These travelers, including high placed persons, are often subjected to a thorough search before boarding the plane.

Polish-Soviet Railway Agreement

A Polish-Soviet railway agreement of 22 April 1963 was ratified by the State Council, Radio Warsaw reported July 10. According to the agreement, Polish passenger and goods trains from Przemyśl to Zagorz will be allowed to cross Soviet territory. Up till now, these trains had to make a detour, and it took 230 km to get them from Przemyśl to Zagorz. On

11 JULY 1963

transit through the Soviet territory these trains will save from 70 to 100 km. Passenger transit will not be subject to border or customs control, but the passengers must have valid identification cards. They will not be allowed to get off the train while in transit.

Intra-Bloc Visits

Czechoslovak Minister of Foreign Affairs Vaclav David paid a five day visit to Poland between July 1 through 5.

Hungarian Minister of Defense, Lt. Gen. Lajos Czinege, arrived in Poland July 5 for an extensive tour of the country's industrial and military establishments.

British Scholars in Lodz

17 British scholars representing the universities of Cambridge, Durham, Glasgow, Hull and Nottingham arrived in Lodz to take part in a "seminar of knowledge of Poland", Radio Warsaw reported July 9. During their three week stay they will visit "several Lodz factories".

Polish - UAR Trade

Foreign Trade Minister Witold Trampczynski (accompanied by Deputy Chairman of the Committee for Economic, Cultural and Scientific Technical Cooperation with Abroad Kazimierz Olszewski and Director of the Treaty Department at Foreign Trade Ministry Eugeniusz Leszczynski) arrived in Cairo July 9 to take part in five day "talks connected with further broadening of trade turnover" between Poland and the United Arab Republic, Radio Warsaw reported.