

ITEM No 3584

LL
31 July 1951
M/19/165/A

POLAND

POLICE
SECURITY REASONS

Letters to foreign countries must be delivered at the post office in an open envelope. Post office clerks take them out of the envelopes, allegedly for the purpose of checking up whether they contain banknotes. The real purpose of this regulation is to discourage senders of such letters from maintaining correspondence with abroad. After this control, the letter is replaced into the envelope, which is then closed in sender's presence.

As a rule, censorship is applied only to the correspondence of persons indicated by security authorities. The security office circulates lists of such people to all post offices. The letters are censored by a special clerk "of the general section" which closely collaborates with police.

The security office is also interested in the transfers of money within the country. The abovementioned "special clerks" are obliged to report to security office the names of persons who have either received or sent money orders amounting to 2,000 Zloty or more.

DATE OF OBSERVATION: Summer 1951

EVAL. COMMENT:

Source : usually reliable;
Information: probably true.