

ITEM No 911

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POLAND

Resistance, Listening to Western Broadcast's

Latest reports from Poland confirm that the majority of the Polish intelligentsia spends a lot of time listening to Western broadcasts. Comment coming from Poland:

The broadcasts from MADRID, with their brutal and strong expressions against Communism correspond to the feelings of the listeners. For this reason Radio MADRID is widely listened to by all social classes without bothering whether the news is entirely reliable or not.

The BBC in Polish is highly appreciated by the more intellectual listeners for its objective and matter-of-fact tone, although it is realized that it represents purely British interests and points of view translated into Polish.

The Voice of America enervates and vexes the listeners. Every Information and commentary about the peaceful intentions of the US annoy the listeners who are fed up with the Communist peace propaganda at home. Instead of spreading anti-Communist ideas the Americans are trying to advertise their "goods,"

From time to time Radio-PARIS and ROME give the Polish listener what he looks for. Highly appreciated are the family news broadcasts by PARIS, the actual satirical little songs and the short and brisk lectures.

Radio Free Europe has improved lately. Still the general tone is considered as lacking in dynamics and character. The listeners dislike milk and watery reminiscences put on in a sentimental and whimpering way.

In an atmosphere of violent changes and constant strain they expect to hear from Western broadcasts factual news, new ideas and an energetic fight against Communism.

Free Europe informations have become lately more up to date and begin to show a livelier contact with real life in Poland.

DATE OF OBSERVATION: May 1951

EVAL. COMMENT: Source: usually reliable;
Information: confirmed by other sources.

The general picture corresponds to the main criticisms appearing from time to time in other news coming from Poland