

Ecuador Breaks Diplomatic Relations with Poland

President of Ecuador, Carlos Arosemena, announced on April 3 that he had decided to break diplomatic relations with Poland, Cuba and Czechoslovakia, agencies reported.

As far as Poland is concerned, these relations have been short-lived indeed: Ecuador established diplomatic relations with Poland in January or February 1961, and they were on the legation level.

Radio Warsaw announced on April 4 that the step was taken "under the pressure of reactionary military circles." Czeslaw Slowakiewicz, the Polish trade attache at Quito, acting as charge d'affaires, was told to leave Ecuador. The broadcast added that in the last few months, Ecuador had no representative in Warsaw. (Official reference books list Vicente Crespo Ordonez as Ecuador's charge d'affaires en pied in Warsaw.)

Draft of a New Law on the Bar

The much debated issue of defense counsels (cf. Situation Report January 25) has entered a new phase. The Ministry of Justice has prepared a reform of the Bar, particularly on the reorganization of lawyers' teams. (In this connection, please note Express Wieczorny article March 22, Polish Press Survey No. 1313 April 4.) According to the Pax daily "Slowo Powszechnie" March 23, the intended reform aims at making the lawyers' teams a main basis of the lawyer's activity. The teams will operate under "new principles" of work and of the division of income. The principle of the individual choice of a defense lawyer by the client will be retained and respected, but "the onus" of book keeping and collecting royalties will be carried by the team management. Instead the lawyers will be covered by insurance and social security schemes. It is also planned to broaden the Bar's self-government, particularly in the matters of disciplinary proceedings against its members. Before submitting the draft of the new law to the Sejm it is intended to make it a subject of a discussion among the members of the Bar.

Long-Term Trade Agreement with Denmark

Jens Otto Krag and Witold Trampczynski, foreign trade ministers of Denmark and Poland respectively, signed in Copenhagen a four-year trade agreement between the two countries for 1962-1965, on April 3, Radio Warsaw reported on the same date. The agreement provides for a gradual increase of turnover by 40 to 50 per cent over 1961. The main items of Polish export to Denmark are coal, chemical products, textiles and rolled

goods. Denmark will supply investment equipment, ships and ship equipment, and installations for food, chemical, cement, electrotechnical, etc., industries.

According to RFE material, the negotiations preceding the agreement lasted for about six weeks in Copenhagen, and were conducted on the Polish side by an able Polish foreign trade official, Michal Kajzer. The previous trade protocol expired on 31 December 1961, and was prolonged for the first quarter of 1962. The overall trade exchange between Poland and Denmark was about 20 million dollars in 1961, either way. It represented an increase of about 25 per cent over 1960. The Polish insistence on a long-term trade agreement with Denmark was based, first of all, on the desire to assure a fixed quota of export of Polish coal, of which Denmark bought about two million tons in 1961. (Denmark, like Sweden, is in the process of switching to oil heating, hence Polish apprehensions about coal.) Poland now becomes the fourth Soviet bloc country to have a long-term trade agreement with Denmark, the other three being Czechoslovakia, Hungary and the USSR.

Polish Foreign Trade in 1961

The overall turnover value of the Polish foreign trade in 1961 was over 12,760 million currency zlotys (or \$3,190 million at bookkeeping rate of 4 zlotys to one dollar), of which 7,785 million zlotys (\$1,946,250,000), or 61 per cent, with socialist countries. The biggest Polish European trade partners were: the USSR, East Germany and Czechoslovakia, followed by the United Kingdom, West Germany, Hungary, Yugoslavia, Italy and Austria. Of the Asiatic countries: Red China, India, Indonesia, and Turkey. In Africa the biggest Polish trade partner was the UAR, Morocco, Sudan, Guinea, and Tunisia. On the American continent: the USA, Cuba, Canada, and Brazil. The value of trade with Australia was 58 million currency zlotys (\$14.5 million). The value of imports exceeds that of export. In relations with socialist countries this difference is covered by income from transit charges. All these data were supplied by Radio Warsaw on April 2.

Polish-British Trade Contacts

Mr. Frederick J. Erroll, the President of the Board of Trade, and Mrs. Erroll will be visiting Poland between June 11 and 18, Radio Warsaw announced April 2. They were invited by the Polish government, the broadcast stressed. In this connection, a few data on Polish-British trade exchange in 1961 were published. The overall value of goods exchange reached 206 million dollars, both ways, thus exceeding the 1960 figure

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by 18 million dollars. As a Polish trade partner, the United Kingdom retained its leading position among the Western countries, and its fourth among all the Polish trade partners.

Note: As stated in Situation Report April 2, an analysis of the "New Law on Assemblies" has been published by CNR on the same date (F-148/150).

Correction: - Situation Report of April 2 - page 2 - last item --on surplus goods agreements please read Poland instead of USSR.