

RADIO FREE EUROPE  
MUNICH

OUTGOING CIPHER MESSAGE

TO: 3  
JAN 30 19:17

MUN 157 30 JAN 67

TO: SCHNEIDER INFO KAUFMANN ROWSON  
FM: WALTER INFO FISCHER (ACTING FOR OTT) COLLINS COOK DIAMOND LYON  
REYMAN

1845

OPD HIGHLIGHTS NO. 13

1. POLAND

TODAY'S POLISH SITUATION REPORT CONTAINS AN ITEM ON APPOINTMENT OF GENERAL KOMAR AS VICE MINISTER OF INTERNAL SECURITY. THIS CHANGE IN KOMAR'S STATUS HAS NOT BEEN ANNOUNCED BY THE REGIME. IT WAS NOTED HERE WHEN TRYBUNA LUDU REPORTED HIS PRESENCE AT A CEREMONY RENAMING A FACTORY AFTER TORUNCZYK, A POLISH COMMUNIST WHO FOUGHT IN THE SPANISH CIVIL WAR. TRYBUNA LUDU SIMPLY MENTIONED KOMAR AND GAVE HIS TITLE WITHOUT IN ANY WAY NOTING THE FACT OF HIS PROMOTION. IT WILL BE RECALLED THAT KOMAR PLAYED A VITAL ROLE IN THE EVENTS OF OCTOBER 1956. AS COMMANDER OF THE ARMED FORMATIONS OF THE MINISTRY OF INTERNAL SECURITY, HE MOVED HIS TROOPS INTO POSITION TO OPPOSE ANY POSSIBLE SOVIET ATTACK. HIS LOYALTY TO GOMULKA WAS COMPLETE. THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT THIS SHOW OF FORCE PLAYED ITS ROLE IN CAUSING THE SOVIETS NOT TO CROWD THE POLISH LEADERSHIP BEYOND ENDURANCE.

KOMAR FELL FROM GRACE IN JULY 1960, AND PLAYED A MINOR ROLE AS DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR FROM THAT TIME UNTIL THE PRESENT. HIS PROMOTION TO THE POST OF VICE MINISTER AT THIS JUNCTURE IS MOST LIKELY A MOVE TO COUNTER MOCZAR'S INFLUENCE. KOMAR IS A RELATIVE "LIBERAL" AND A JEW AND PROBABLY HAS NO PARTICULAR DEVOTION TO MOCZAR. THAT THERE HAS BEEN NO FANFARE IN CONNECTION WITH KOMAR'S PROMOTION PROBABLY INDICATES THAT GOMULKA DOES NOT WANT ANY APPEARANCE OF SENSATION AS HE MOVES TO CONTAIN MOCZAR. IT MAY, OF COURSE, BE ARGUED THAT KOMAR'S LOYALTY TO GOMULKA IS QUESTIONABLE AS A RESULT OF KOMAR'S DEMOTION IN 1960. HOWEVER, IT IS LIKELY THAT KOMAR FEELS MORE STRONGLY ABOUT MOCZAR THAN ABOUT GOMULKA. FURTHERMORE, OF COURSE, IT IS GOMULKA WHO RETAINS THE POWER IN POLAND, AND MOCZAR WHO IS STILL IN THE POSITION OF BEING MERELY ONE OF THOSE WHO WOULD LIKE TO HAVE IT. (SIT. RPT. ITEM SENT IN CLEAR).

2. SOVIET "STATEMENT" ON WEST GERMANY.

THIS LOOKS LIKE A CLASSIC EXAMPLE OF PAPER TIGERY AND, AS NOTED IN TODAY'S DGS, "THERE IS PROBABLY LESS BEHIND IT

(MORE)

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THAN MEETS THE EYE." ALTHOUGH FULL OF BOMBAST AGAINST THE ALLEGED REVIVAL OF NAZISM IN THE GFR (AND, IN FACT, MORE THAN FAINTLY REMINISCENT OF THE TYPE OF DOCUMENT PRODUCED BY GOEBBELS), THE NOTE NEVER GETS TO THE POINT, I.E., THAT OF WARNING AGAINST GERMAN EFFORTS TO IMPROVE RELATIONS WITH THE EAST. HAD THE STATEMENT APPEARED SEVERAL MONTHS AGO -- INSTEAD OF ON THE EVE OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS BETWEEN BUCHAREST AND BONN -- AND HAD IT GENUINELY OPPOSED GERMAN MOVES TOWARD THE EAST, IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE TO TAKE IT SERIOUSLY. AS IT IS, BOTH TIMING AND CONTENT MAKE IT HARD TO BELIEVE IT IS ANYTHING OTHER THAN A RATHER FEEBLE NOD TO THE SENSIBILITIES OF MESSRS. ULBRICHT AND GOMULKA. HOWEVER DENSE THESE TWO HAVE OFTEN SHOWN THEMSELVES TO BE, IT IS SCARCELY TO BE IMAGINED THAT THEY FIND MOSCOW'S STATEMENT AS ANYTHING OTHER THAN VERY COLD COMFORT INDEED. (STATEMENT SENT IN CLEAR AS DESK SPECIAL.)

END MSG