

Gomulka Speech

Gomulka's speech in commemoration of the 17th anniversary of "Peoples Poland" should be viewed as a strong declaration of support for Khrushchev's German and Berlin policy. Although today's Stehle dispatch stresses Gomulka's "return" to the Rapacki plan as one of the high points of the speech, the view here is that Stehle's emphasis is misplaced. The latter does report, however, that there is a "widespread sentiment" in Poland that the increased international tension in the wake of the Berlin crisis may adversely affect Poland's current economic plans. According to Stehle, it is feared in Warsaw crucial economic resources may have to be diverted into increased production.

In this connection the joint declaration of the Polish and Vietnamese governments signed on Saturday expressed the hope that the "Soviet-American disarmament talks would lead to the "formation of an organization which could undertake constructive work towards world disarmament." The declaration also took the Soviet line on Berlin and the German peace treaty stating that "the conclusion of a peace treaty without further delay" was essential for peace and security in Europe.

In other festivities connected with Liberation Day the Polish Ambassador to Hungary prepared a statement which was read in translation over the radio which was orthodox in its praise of the Soviet Union's struggle against the "Hitlerite armies" and in its praise for the "First and Second" Polish armies which also participated in the liberation of the country. No mention was made of the AK or Polish units fighting in the West.

In Sofia Yugov spoke at a reception given by the Polish embassy and used the occasion to plug for a peace treaty with the "two German states" and to launch attacks on West Germany and Greece. China offered strong support for the Oder-Neisse frontier and even Albania sent a stereotype message of greetings to the Polish leaders.