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31 August 1951  
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POLAND

EDUCATION  
Universities

ARMED FORCES  
Training

In the year 1951/52 a new subject was added to the program of all universities i.e. "Military Studies." It was introduced as obligatory in all universities and colleges for all physically fit male students. After the completion of studies - i.e. in three to five years time, the student obtains the rank of a cadet officer. At present, infantry training is being introduced everywhere.

A commanding officer holding the rank of a major is attached to each school, with a group of officers and NCO's. Students are organized in battalions, companies and platoons. The training takes 16 to 18 hours weekly, and on Sundays, field exercises take place. During the three months summer holidays, one month must be spent on military training grounds, where regular fighting units composed of students are organized.

Normal daily and Sunday exercises take place in civilian clothes. The decree was issued by the Ministry of National Defence and the Ministry of Universities and Science has introduced this obligatory training, which relieves the students, after having completed the training, from obligatory military service.

Apart from military training, two hours a week of physical training are compulsory for all male and female students.

Military training also includes political education for small selected groups destined to become the future officers of the Polish Army.

As a result, the students have not much time for their private life and individual hobbies. Of the three months' vacation, one is spent in military training, the second in obligatory work in factories two weeks in the office, two weeks as an unskilled worker, and of the remaining time, some days are occupied with "social activities" in political organizations.

POLAND  
( cont'd )

DATE OF OBSERVATION: Schoolyear 1950/1952

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