

RADIO FREE EUROPE
MUNICH

OUTGOING CIPHER MESSAGE

TO: S

MUN 13 8 FEB 66

TO RICHARDSON INFO ROWSON FISCHER SCHNEIDER DUNNING
FM WALTER FOR SMITH

08/1737.

"LE MONDE" HAS CARRIED AN AGENCE FRANCE PRESS DISPATCH GIVING A FULLER VERSION OF BISHOP KOMINEK'S DEFENSE ON SUNDAY OF THE POLISH EPISCOPATE'S LETTER TO THEIR GERMAN COUNTERPARTS THAN THAT CARRIED BY AN EARLIER REUTER DISPATCH.

WE WOULD LIKE TO CARRY THIS DISPATCH CITING AFP AND "LE MONDE" IN "FACTS AND VIEWS" WITHOUT OUR OWN COMMENTARY. THE DISPATCH AS CARRIED BY "LE MONDE" FOLLOWS:

"WE CONSIDER THE CAMPAIGN CONDUCTED BY THE PRESS AGAINST THE EPISCOPATE AN AFFRONT TO THE POLISH RAISON D'ETAT", DECLARED MGR. BOLESŁAW KOMINEK ON SUNDAY EVENING IN A SERMON DELIVERED IN THE CATHEDRAL OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST IN WROCLAW. THESE WORDS WERE GREETED BY THE APPLAUSE OF THE THOUSANDS OF FAITHFUL WHO HAD COME TO HEAR THEIR ARCHBISHOP'S FIRST SERMON SINCE HIS RETURN FROM THE COUNCIL. THE PRELATE TRIED IN VAIN TO CLAM THE CONGREGATION. THE OVATION CONTINUED, NOT STOPPING UNTIL THE PRELATE HAD PRACTICALLY LEFT THE CATHEDRAL. "FAITHFUL TO THE SPIRIT OF THE COUNCIL", DECLARED MGR. KOMINEK, "THE POLISH BISHOPS ADDRESSED A LETTER TO THE GERMAN BISHOPS AS WELL AS TO THE BISHOPS OF ALL OTHER COUNTRIES, IN ORDER TO ENGAGE IN A DIALOGUE WITH THE WORLD, AND NOT TO OPPOSE THE WORLD TO POLAND. ON THE CONTRARY, WE INVITED THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE WORLD EPISCOPATE TO THE POLAND OF TODAY, NOT ONLY TO TAKE PART IN THE MILENNIUM CEREMONIES, BUT ALSO TO SEE WITH THEIR OWN EYES THE POSSIBILITIES FOR COEXISTENCE BETWEEN THE CHURCH AND A SOCIALIST STATE. I THINK," CONTINUED MGR KOMINEK, "THAT THE DIRECT ENCOUNTER OF OUR HOMELAND WITH THE BISHOPS, NOT ONLY WITH THE COLLEGE OF BISHOPS, BUT WITH THE PREMIER BISHOP OF ROME WHO DIRECTS IT, COULD NOT HARM ANYONE IN POLAND. WHAT WE DID WITH THE MESSAGE WAS TO PRESENT THE VISITING CARD OF TODAY'S POLAND, POPULAR POLAND, THE GREATER PART OF WHOSE POPULATION FILLS THE CHURCHES, AS MR. WLADYSŁAW GOMULKA HAS REMARKED, INDEPENDENTLY OF THE FACT THAT THE POWER IN POLAND RESTS IN THE HANDS OF THOSE WHO, OFFICIALLY, DO NOT GOT TO CHURCH".

THE ARCHBISHOP OF WROCLAW, WHO REPROACHED THE POLISH NEWSPAPER "FORUM" OF "HAVING FALSIFIED THE TEXT OF THE GERMAN BISHOPS' REPLY", NOTED THAT THE LATTER HAD ADMITTED, IN THE COURSE OF THE DEBATE THE IRREVOCABILITY OF THE GEO-POLITICAL MODIFICATIONS MEDIATED SINCE 1945.

MGR. KOMINEK CONCLUDED: "THE TRAGEDY IS NOT THAT OF HAVING REPROACHED THE BISHOPS FOR HAVING WISHED TO MAKE AN ISSUE OF THE WESTERN FRONTIER. MR GOMULKAS HAS HIMSELF GIVEN THAT CHARGE THE LIE. WHAT IS TRAGIC IS THAT, AS A RESULT OF THESE HEATED CAMPAIGNS, THEY HAVE SERIOUSLY PREJUDICED THE NATIONAL INTERESTS OF POLAND; THEY HAVE GIVEN THE IMPRESSION THAT POLES ARE NOT REALLY UNANIMOUS ON THAT WHICH CONCERNS THE DEFINITIVE CHARACTER OF THE FRONTIER".

WE REQUEST CLEARANCE FOR BROADCAST ON WEDNESDAY,
FEBRUARY 9.

END MSG

FEB 8 17:59