

Another Soviet-Polish Meeting

Polish and Soviet leaders met somewhere in the Masuria area (formerly East Prussia) on January 21 and 22 "to exchange views on the questions of relations between the two brotherly countries and parties," Radio Warsaw reported January 22. The Polish delegation consisted of First Party Secretary Wladyslaw Gomulka, Politburo member and Premier Jozef Cyrankiewicz, Politburo member Zenon Kliszko, and Politburo member and Defense Minister Marshal Marian Spychalski. Their Soviet discussion partners were: Leonid Brezhnev and Alexei Kosygin, as well as CC secretary Yuri Andropov, Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko, and Defense Minister Marshal Rodion Malinovsky. No more could be learned about this meeting from either Polish and/or Soviet or Western sources. On January 23, Radio Warsaw broadcast the news about the departure of the Soviet delegation from Warsaw, and the next day, about their arrival in Moscow. On their return trip, the Soviet leaders were joined by Marshal Andrei Grechko, C-in-C of the Warsaw Pact Forces.

The Masurian meeting held perhaps at the Lansk hunting lodge (cf. Sit. Rep. February 10), was the second between the new Soviet leaders and the Poles after the one in the "area of the Bialowieza Forest" last October (cf. Sit. Rep. October 26). Rumors still persist that they may have met at what was dubbed as a "little summit" (cf. Sit. Rep. January 22), with the inclusion of the Rumanian leaders.

Rapacki in Rome

Italian Prime Minister and Foreign Minister ad interim Aldo Moro and Polish Foreign Minister Adam Rapacki expressed satisfaction at the development of Polish-Italian trade and cultural relations, on the one hand, and a desire for further extension of "Polish-Italian relations" on the other. This was reported by Radio Warsaw, as well as by Western agencies, after the two statesmen met January 23 at a luncheon in Rome, shortly after Rapacki's arrival from Warsaw. He was travelling in the company of Ambassador Jerzy Michalowski. Rapacki was later received by the new Italian President and former Foreign Minister

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Giuseppe Saragat. The Polish party is due to arrive in Teheran today.

#### The Oder-Neisse Border Problem

The political dust raised by the statement of Fritz Erler (cf. Sit. Rep. January 18) has still not settled. This is more true for the West German politicians than for the Poles. The latter are making a pretense of sitting on the fence and are limiting their political "activity" to reporting on what happens in the Federal Republic and to casual, but biting observations on a discussion which is supposed to settle something which has already been definitely settled. These remarks are to be found in the press and radio rather than in any statements made by government or Party officials. These media are keeping the subject alive, and are being tremendously helped in this by West German political spokesmen eager to define their stand on this thorny problem in an election year. First of all, it was Erler again who enlarged on his original statement made in Berlin. This time speaking in Bonn, on January 18, Erler reiterated his belief that direct Polish-West German discussions on the border problem would be both necessary and useful, but he also stated that the starting point for the Germans would be the frontier of 1937 and that a hard bargain "about each square meter of German territory" was to be expected. Erler was supported, on the same day, by the chairman of the Social Democratic Party in Berlin, Kurt Matteik who, in an article in the weekly "Berliner Stimme," explained that Erler's move was not aimed at making "advance concessions" but at sitting down for "advance talks." Mattick pointed out that the French are again recommending that the West Germans recognize the Oder-Neisse line, that the US Secretary of State is putting out feelers in this direction and that British public opinion fully supports the existing border line.

The Social-Democratic suggestion of talks was firmly rejected on January 21 by the ruling Christian Democratic Party, after a discussion of the problem with the leaders of German expellee organizations. The conference took place on January 20 in Bonn, and was attended by CDU Chairman Konrad Adenauer and by Wenzel Jaksch, who was representing the expellees. The fact



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that Jaksch is a member of the opposition Social Democratic Party indicates that there is no agreement within the Party as to what stand should be taken on the possibility of Polish-West German talks. Thus, another SPD member, Hamburg Lord Mayor Paul Nevermann, speaking to journalists on January 21, called such talks useful. On the other hand, the leader of the coalition party (FDP), Erich Mende, saw in Erler's proposal a "prepayment" by Bonn. Participating in a television panel discussion on January 21, Mende insisted on the 1937 border as being legally binding.

Wyszynski for Extension of State of Limitations

"The time to forgive and forget is not yet ripe" --- Stefan, Cardinal Wyszynski said in a sermon in a Warsaw church yesterday, UPI reported. "That is what we, Polish bishops, think about the moratorium on war crimes," he explained.