

Agriculture

Optimistic reports from Poland as regards very favorable prospects for this year's harvest have disappeared from the official press and Radio Warsaw yesterday reported that heavy rains had brought harvesting activities to a standstill. A visitor to the West from Poland contacted on Monday also reported that previous to this spell of bad weather, grain harvesting had been hampered by high winds which had flattened wheat in some areas of Poland. No doubt much will depend on the attitude of the private peasantry and their willingness to go to the extra efforts required to gather in the damaged crops.

Warsaw Uprising Commemoration

Publicity of the abortive 1944 Warsaw uprising as played on Radio Warsaw was notable this year for its lack of attacks on the AK leadership. Opinion here is that this significant omission is an admission of failure of a propaganda policy of the Warsaw regime. The maligning of the AK leadership continued to be a mainstay of regime propaganda even after October, although the persecution of AK veterans largely ceased.

Population

The 30th million Pole was born last night according to Radio Warsaw. Search is now being conducted as to specifically where and precisely when. Bets are still being taken that it will be in the Western territories.

In 1931 there were over 30 million residents within Poland's national boundaries but some ten million of them were members of substantial minority groups such as Ukrainians, Jewish citizens, White Russians and Germans. After the war there were some 24 million Poles and the post-war population explosion has brought it up to the present total of 30 million.

Legal

It should be noted in the present crack down on Poland's defense lawyers that Trybuna Ludu (27 July) reports that 18 lawyers have been indicted for "illegal intervention" on behalf of clients and/or tax evasion.

Please note Stehle's dispatch sent today concerning public opinion in Poland as regards Berlin situation and also long analytical piece by Ben in Le Monde which discusses the Oder/Neisse line in the framework of various Western philosophies on how to negotiate best with the Russians.