

OUTGOING CIPHER MESSAGE

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TO SCHNEIDER INFO KAUFMANN ROWSON
FM WALTER INFO OTT COLLINS COOK LANGENDORF REYMAN

31/1817.

POLISH NEWS MEDIA HAVE TREATED AT SOME LENGTH TWO RECENT WEST GERMAN PRESS REPORTS OF A MODIFICATION IN THE VIEWS OF CERTAIN WEST GERMAN STATESMEN ON BONN'S EASTERN POLICY IN GENERAL, AND THE ISSUE OF THE ODRA-NYSA BORDER IN PARTICULAR. "FRANKFURTER RUNDSCHAU" REPORTED ON 22 OCTOBER PRESIDENT LUEBKE'S ALLEGED STATEMENT THAT WEST GERMANY WOULD EVENTUALLY RECOGNIZE THE ODRA-NYSA--A STATEMENT WHICH WAS IMMEDIATELY STRONGLY QUALIFIED BY BONN. WHILE NOTING THAT BONN'S REACTION TO THE REPORT SHOWED THAT IT "GREATLY FEARED THE TRUTH", "TRYBUNA LUDU", IN AN ARTICLE BY PODKIWINSKI ON 24 OCTOBER, TREATED LUEBKE'S ALLEGED STATEMENT AS A POSITIVE STEP: "REGARDLESS OF THE QUALIFICATIONS OF THE STATEMENT MADE BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE GERMAN FEDERAL REPUBLIC...ITS IMPORTANCE IS UNQUESTIONABLE. THE FIRST CITIZEN OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC SPOKE OPENLY OF THE TRUTH WHICH IS REALIZED BY THE MAJORITY OF THE WEST GERMAN INHABITANTS, INCLUDING CHANCELLOR ERHARD AND THE SPOKESMAN OF THE BONN GOVERNMENT".

THE FOLLOWING DAY, "GLOS PRACY" CARRIED AN ARTICLE DESCRIBING ERHARD'S EASTERN POLICY AS HAVING "RUN AGROUND", CITING AS EVIDENCE BRANDT'S CRITICISM OF THAT POLICY, THE LUEBKE STATEMENT, AND PRESIDENT JOHNSON'S STATEMENT ON THE INTEGRITY OF NATIONAL BORDERS IN EUROPE. THE IMPLICATION OF THE ARTICLE IS THAT ALL THREE STATEMENTS ARE POSITIVE FROM THE POLISH POINT OF VIEW.

ON 27 OCTOBER (ACCORDING TO PAP), "TRYBUNA LUDU" CARRIED ANOTHER ARTICLE BY PODKOWINSKI ATTACKING THE ERHARD GOVERNMENT FOR REFUSING TO RECOGNIZE THE BANKRUPTCY OF ITS FOREIGN POLICY. "DID RESPONSIBLE WEST GERMAN POLITICIANS REALIZE THE IMPOSSIBILITY OF CONTINUING THE FORMER POLICY? THERE IS NO DOUBT ABOUT IT..." THE ARTICLE CONTINUED, CITING AS EVIDENCE "STRIFE AND QUARRELS WITHIN THE CDU", "THE STATEMENTS OF FDP LEADERS", AND "THE TAKING OVER OF THE INITIATIVE BY THE SPD IN NUMEROUS PROBLEMS IN THE FIELD OF ALL-GERMAN AND

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PAGE TWO MUN 119

FOREIGN POLICY".

WHILE THE ECHO OF LUEBKE'S ALLEGED STATEMENT WAS STILL BEING HEARD IN THE POLISH NEWS MEDIA, RADIO WARSAW, ON 26 OCTOBER IN A REPORT FROM ITS BONN CORRESPONDENT, FACTUALLY REPORTED ON A "DER SPIEGEL" ARTICLE (ISSUE OF 24 OCTOBER) REPORTING ON THE BRIEFING WHICH KARL CARSTENS ALLEGEDLY GAVE THE CABINET EARLIER IN THE MONTH. RADIO WARSAW QUOTED WITHOUT COMMENT CARSTENS' STATEMENTS, INCLUDING THE SENTENCE: "THE RECOGNITION OF THE ODRA-NYSA BOUNDARY, FOR WHICH BONN HAS STILL HOPED TO RECEIVE SOMETHING IN EXCHANGE IN NEGOTIATIONS OVER A PEACE TREATY, NO LONGER HAS ANY TRADING VALUE".

WHILE ATTEMPTING TO EXPLOIT FULLY THE SPECTER OF WEST GERMAN "REVANCHISM", THE GOMULKA REGIME HAS IN THE PAST CONTINUED TO PROCLAIM PUBLICLY ON CERTAIN OCCASIONS ITS INTEREST IN IMPROVED WEST GERMAN-POLISH RELATIONS. (SEE, FOR EXAMPLE, CYRANKIEWICZ'S SPEECH OF 1 SEPT. 66). UNTIL NOW, HOWEVER, POLISH STATEMENTS HAVE SHARPLY DIFFERENTIATED THE RULING POLITICAL ELITE FROM OTHER SECTIONS OF WEST GERMAN SOCIETY IN TERMS OF ITS ATTITUDE TOWARDS POLAND. IN COMMENTING ON THE LUEBKE STATEMENT AND THE CARSTENS BRIEFING, POLISH MEDIA HAVE ACKNOWLEDGED THE EXISTENCE OF DIFFERENCES OF OPINION ON BONN'S EASTERN POLICY AMONG THE POLITICAL ELITE ITSELF AND IMPLIED THAT THIS IS A POSITIVE DEVELOPMENT FOR POLAND.

IT IS POSSIBLE THAT WARSAW HAS CONCLUDED IT CAN NO LONGER GET AWAY WITH AN UNDIFFERENTIATED ATTITUDE TOWARD ALL GERMAN LEADERS AT A TIME WHEN THERE IS SO MUCH EVIDENCE THAT GERMAN EASTERN POLICY IS GENUINELY A SUBJECT OF DISCUSSION AND ARGUMENT IN THE HIGHEST CIRCLES OF THE GERMAN FEDERAL REPUBLIC.

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