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CIA-RDP08C01297R000400260004-8 B L A N D

RECONSTRUCTION OF EUROPE

A L L R I G H T S R E S E R V E D
B Y Z A C H O D N I A A G E N C J A P R A S O W A

★

C O V E R D E S I G N E D B Y:
J E R Z Y S T A N I S Z K I S A N D C Z E S Ł A W W I E L H O R S K I

★

G R A P H I C A L L Y E L A B O R A T E D B Y:
J E R Z Y H R Y N I E W I E C K I, J E R Z Y S T A N I S Z K I S
A N D C Z E S Ł A W W I E L H O R S K I

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RECONSTRUCTION OF EUROPE

POLAND

RECOVERED TERRITORIES



ZACHODNIA AGENCJA PRASOWA
POZNAŃ

R E C O N S T R U C T I O N O F E U R O P E

The life of Europe today is governed by one postulate. From under the influence of this factor none of the states and none of the nations of the continent can escape or withdraw. All forces must be put into operation in service of the task of an economical and social rebuilding of Europe. It is particularly important for the proper organising of such a reconstruction to bring forward and to promote in devastated Europe all creative possibilities of labour and not to leave any dead or inactive zones.

Disturbances of the present economic state of Europe are caused by two factors. The first one — distinctly noticeable — is the result of terrific war destruction which covered nearly the whole of Europe. In order to understand the second factor, it is necessary to proceed to a more detailed analysis of conditions as created by the erroneous political and economical decisions of the Versailles Treaty, which found their expression in the establishment of boundaries.

Poland — devastated and depopulated during the German occupation, was sentenced by the aggressors to liquidation and extermination. Now she has begun the task of reconstruction with an energy which hardly could have been expected after all the hardships and misery she went through. The most prominent factor which called to life this surprising energy of the Polish people was the Recovered Territories. Plunged in devastation but abounding in potential possibilities of labour and productive power, those territories became the main rebuilding area of Poland. As a result these provinces, which after the end of the war were a dead desert of „burned out soil“, today are already working for the economy of Poland and Europe, supplying as important products as coal and food not to mention other branches of production. Most important conditions for an economical reconstruction were successfully created: an extensive settling process was carried out and the devastated communication system was rebuilt. In addition to the above it should be taken into consideration that only now the Recovered Territories are starting

R E C O N S T R U C T I O N O F E U R O P E

to recover all the productive capacity and power, offered by the natural resources of this part of our country. Whilst united with Germany these resources formed a colonial reserve, which did not participate in the economical life of Europe. Germany, drawing everything out of her production centres in the West and in Saxony could afford the luxury of maintaining this colonial reserve — a fact unheard of from the point of view of European interest. It was indeed symbolic to speak of the river Odra as a „steppe-river“. As to Poland, these territories are the starting point which enables the country to undertake a remodelling of the political and social structure: from a rather agricultural state into an industrial-agricultural one. In this way their rôle of a reservate came once and for ever to an end. The **potential** state of natural resources is now changing into **direct exploitation** and this is opening to Poland the possibility of an absolute increase of production in comparison with the pre-war state of affairs.

This is the big part which the Recovered Territories, as a part of the Polish state, might play in the task of rebuilding Europe. And this is also the main meaning of the importance of the modification performed today in the chapters of the Versailles Treaty instead of tearing, the Potsdam decision is linking in a natural way the economic areas of the Odra district with the economical organism of Poland. A new building is slowly arising in this part of the continent, the great work of economical and social reconstruction of a sector of Europe, and this time the problem was solved in a logical and right way.

C H U R C H I L L — R O O S E V E L T — S T A L I N

Nazi Germany is doomed. The German people will only make the cost of their defeat heavier to themselves by attempting to continue a hopeless resistance."

„It is our inflexible purpose to destroy German militarism and Nazism and to ensure that Germany will never again be able to disturb the peace of the world."

„We are determined to disarm and disband all German armed forces; break up for all time the German General Staff that has repeatedly contrived the resurgence of German militarism; remove or destroy all German military equipment; eliminate of control all German industry that could be used for military production; bring all war criminals to just and swift punishment and exact reparation in kind for the destruction wrought by the Germans; wipe out the Nazi party, Nazi laws, organisations and institutions, remove all Nazi and militarist influences from public office and from the cultural and economic life of the German people; and take in harmony such other measures in Germany as may be necessary to the future peace and safety of the world. It is not our purpose to destroy the people of Germany, but only when Nazism and militarism have been extirpated, will there be hope for a decent life for Germans, and place for them in the comity of nations."

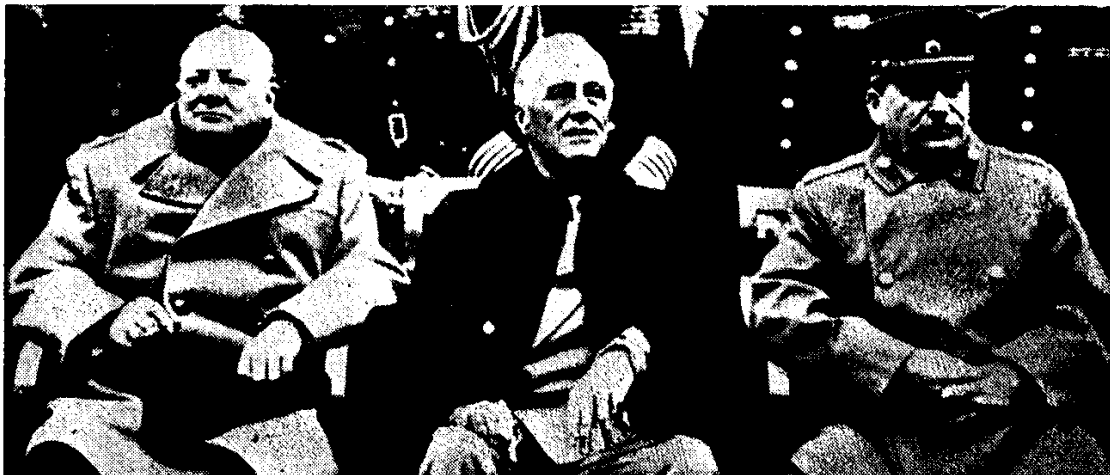
„The three Heads of Government consider that the eastern frontier of Poland should follow the Curzon line with digressions from it in some regions of five to eight kilometres in favour of Poland. They recognise that Poland must receive substantial accessions of territory in the North and West. They feel that the opinion of the new Polish Provisional Government of National Unity should be sought in due course on the extent of these accessions and that the final delimitation of the western frontier of Poland should thereafter await the Peace Conference."

(—) W. Churchill

(—) F. D. Roosevelt

(—) J. Stalin

CHURCHILL — ROOSEVELT — STALIN



YALTA 11-TH FEBRUARY 1945.

T H E Y E A R 1 0 0 0 — S L A V S

Before Poland became the Slav state extending farthest eastward over 1000 years of bitter fights had to pass.

A look at a historical map is sufficient to ascertain the fact that in mediaeval times the Slavs were occupying territories due East of the rivers Łaba and Sola. These rivers during the Charlemagne epoch determined the borders of purely German soil.

The collapse of Charlemagne's monarchy not only did not check the conquests, but on the contrary, the German Empire with still greater vehemence started to widen its territories towards the East achieving this at the cost of the Slav tribes, which had occupied them for centuries. Such conquests were facilitated by the fact that Slav tribes settled between the rivers Łaba, Sola and Odra did not create any proper form of independent states and were not christened, thus giving the German Emperors an excellent excuse for armed intervention. In this way the Łaba Slavs had to yield to violence and force.

When the Germans in their progress towards the East reached the Polish and Czech frontiers, they were stopped for the first time. Realising the dangerous threat the first historical rulers of Poland — Mieszko I and Bolesław the Brave — succeeded in creating a protective wall along the rivers Odra and Nissa at the break of the X and XI centuries.

So long as the Łaba Slavs were backed by the Polish state they could defend themselves against the German flood, but after the death of Bolesław the Brave, this support was lost and they had to suffer extermination and destruction.

This rebuilding work is now performed by Poland. Her task of bringing back to life the Recovered Territories is the subject of the pages which follow. Poland's share is a tremendous one and worthy of the common aim of rebuilding Europe and the peace.

T H E Y E A R 1 0 0 0 — S L A V S



GERMAN ATLAS:
„KARTEN UND SKIZZEN AUS DER GESCHICHTE DES MITTELALTERS“ („MAPS AND
SKETCHES CONCERNING THE HISTORY OF MIDDLE AGES“) PROF. DR. EDWARD ROTETR.
SLAV TERRITORIES — YEAR 1000 — FRONTIER OF BOLESLAV THE BRAVE.

HISTORY OF THE POLISH WESTERN BORDERS

After a terrible war, overcome by an united effort of the whole world, Germany today is submitting a conception of a „just“ Polish-German frontier.

During a period of 1000 years of Polish-German neighbourhood this frontier was subject to many changes. Although this changes always took place at the cost of a loss of Polish territories, according to the German point of view each frontier was „wronging them“, and for a period of 1000 years they were always claiming the necessity of a frontier revision.

In 1018 Bolesław the Brave after three wars with Henry II Emperor of Germany united the Western Slavs under his sceptre. The Budziszyn Peace determined a frontier which was running due East of the river Odra.

In 1136 Bolesław Krzywousty united all the Polish tribes. The rivers Odra and Nissa were the Polish frontier. The Łaba Slavs found themselves under German domination

In 1370 the Teutonic Knights ruled in Pomerania and Prussia. West Pomerania was a vassal state of the Emperor. Brandenburg was occupied. Silesia, divided into small duchies, became a vassal country of the Czech kings of the German dynasty of Luxembourg. Władysław Łokietek and Kazimierz the Great again united Poland, but at the cost of the loss of Silesia, the Lubush district and Pomerania.

In 1525 Poland defeated the Teutonic Knights. Pomerania and Warmia returned to Poland. The last High Master of The Order — Albrecht Hohenzollern — became a vassal of the Polish King and the Duke of Prussia.

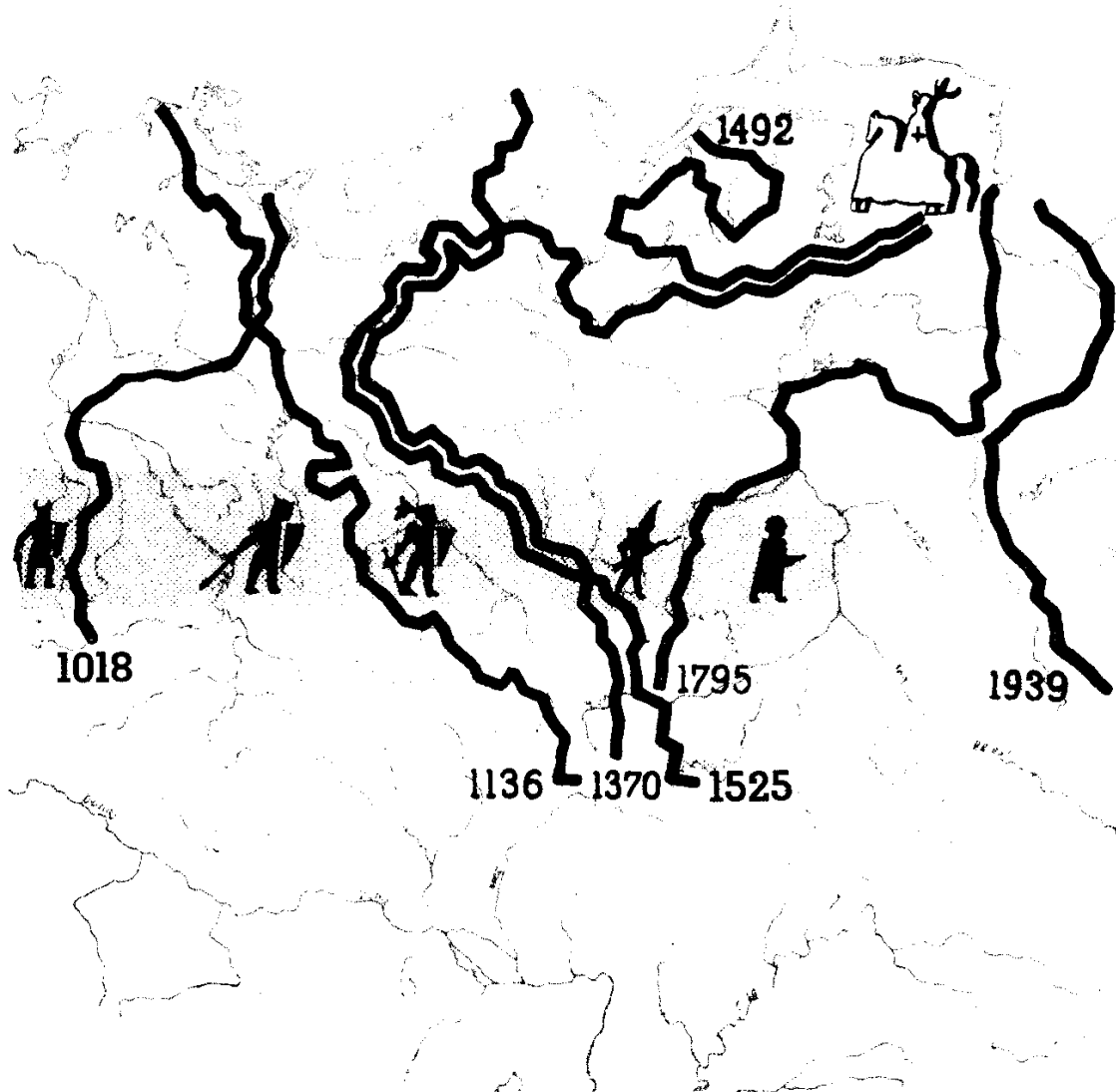
In 1795 the partition of Poland took place. The river Niemen, Bug and Zbrucz became the frontiers of Germany. Poland ceased to exist as an independent state.

In 1918 the Versailles Treaty gave back to Poland only a part of her old provinces, leaving the rest under German rule.

In 1939 Hitler's armed forces overran Poland and in the East the old Frederician border came into existence again.

The Potsdam decision settled the western frontier of Poland as it has been in the year 1100. Poland was given back territories which were the cradle of the Polish state. We returned from where we were expelled by force through the German conception of a „just eastern frontier“.

HISTORY OF THE POLISH WESTERN BORDERS



UNDER GERMAN PRESSURE THE FRONTIER RECEDES FROM THE ODRA TO THE BUG.

„D R A N G N A C H O S T E N“

Through the entire German history, like a red thread winds the idea of a conquest of the East. Epochs, dynasties and rulers changed, new systems and ideologies were adopted, yet still unchanged and everlasting remained the idea of the conquest of the East and the mastership over Eastern Territories disregarding the means and ways of achieving this aim. In the service of this insane idea the robber-knights, the monk and missionary, the merchant and the peasant stood up in unity attracted by the image of new gains and new territories robbed from the conquered Slav landlord.

In the German expansion towards the East exact periods can be defined which differ only in the means and ways of action. Whilst during the earliest periods the pressure towards the East was carried out by the Germans through armed assaults in order to liquidate the remnants of still independent and free Slav tribes, already in the early mediaeval period the methods of peaceful penetration was adopted.

A political instrument of great importance and range, results of which are reaching our times, was the extensive activity of the merchants whose tracts lead far towards the East, especially towards the Baltic Sea. The coalition of towns known under the name of „the Hansa“ in which Germans were playing the main part became a mighty political weapon cleverly used by the German state.

The mediaeval colonising system known under the term of „colonisation on bases of the German law“, although of minor range, was another form of peaceful penetration of German elements into Eastern Europe.

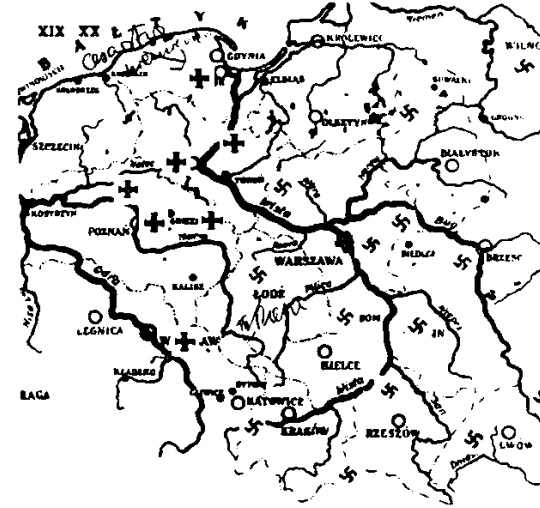
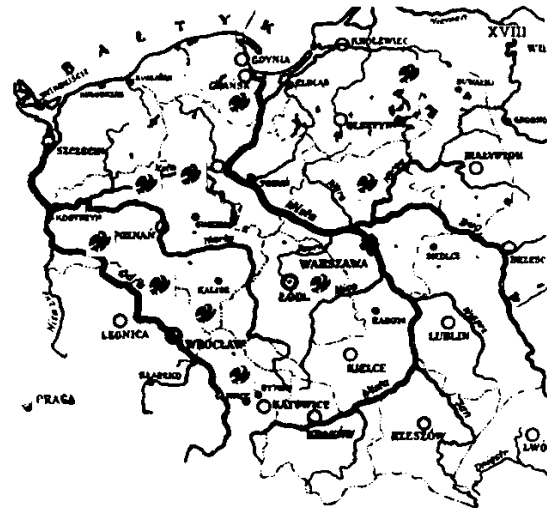
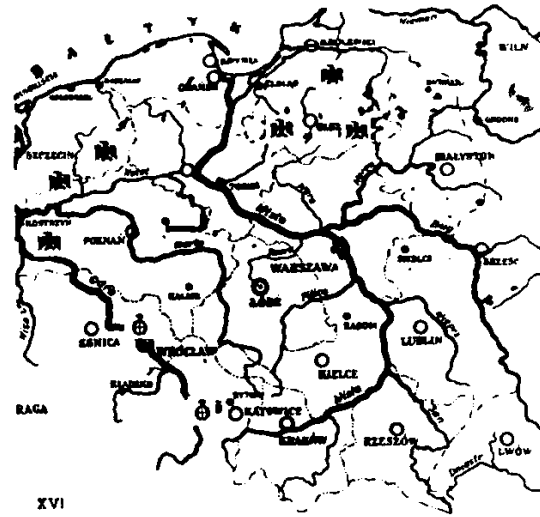
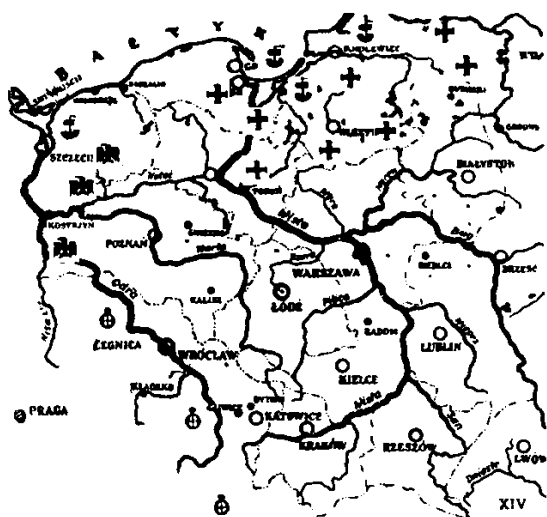
The history of the Knights of the Cross Order is another episode in the German „Drang nach Osten“. This Order was not only an incarnation of the German idea of bloody conquests but at the same time was creating a base for the new Prussian state which had in the future to pay such a fatal rôle in the history not only of Germany itself but also in the history of Europe and the whole world.

In recent times (in the XVIIIth century) a new epoch of political and economic pressure towards the East was starting. The partition of Poland on one hand and the colonisation of remote eastern territories on the other hand became a new link in the realisation of the eastern plan.

With exactness and precision Germany started her task of germanising those territories which she annexed after the partition of Poland. The „Frederician colonisation“ in the XVIII century, „The Colonisation Commission“, „The Hakata“, „Kulturkampf“ in the XIX century — all these were inseparable elements of the Polish—German relations.

The entire policy of Hitler's Germany was nothing less than a realisation of the traditions of centuries and a basically unchanged political line.

„D R A N G N A C H O S T E N“



- HANSA
- TEUTONIC KNIGHTS
- PRUSSIA
- BRANDENBURG
- THE HABSBURGS
- GERMAN EMPIRE
- THIRD REICH

Did the Germans achieve their aim of germanising the East? In 1930 a prominent German scientist and one of the most devoted adherents of the ideology of the „Drang nach Osten“ stated with a bitter feeling of regret:

...The task (of help to the East) is a tremendous one... If it will not be achieved... our grand-sons will witness the river Łaba to become again the eastern border of our country. Poland shall penetrate and possess the territories east of the river Łaba... and 1000 years of German history shall be wasted". (W. Volz, „Die Ostdeutsche Wirtschaft“, page 104).

TRACKS OF THE GERMAN INVASIONS

Attempts of Bolesław the Brave to unite all the Slavs with the Polish nation in order to face the German expansion created a reaction which undermined and finally destroyed his great kingdom.

Despite Poland's glory in the beginning of the XIIIth century, the Germans in our rear started a political conquest of the unconsolidated Baltic nations, like the Prussians, the Latvians and the Estonians.

After the conquest of East Prussia was achieved by the Teutonic Knights Order, out of this comfortable base they started to enforce upon the Poles a territorial union with the eastern March of the Reich — Brandenburg.

In the beginning of the XIV century due to a concentric German pressure we lost Pomerania for the first time. The Polish kingdom, cut off from the sea, was liable to a simultaneous assault from the North and the West — from Kłajpeda to the Silesian frontier. Slowly but systematically this pressure cut its way through into the heart of Poland, along both sides of the Vistula.


When the German dynasty had to give up the throne of the Czechs a new encirclement of Poland from the South started. The strategic plan of destroying Poland in 1331 was setting as a meeting spot the very heart of Polish soil — the Kalisz district. One of the armies came through the Sopot Pass and Silesia and poured into Poland whilst another army fought its way through Bydgoszcz towards the left bank of the Vistula. The left arm of this pincer movement did not succeed in closing and during the retreat from Kalisz the Teutonic Knights suffered a heavy defeat in the battle of Płowce.

But the fight was going on and in the course of it Poland had to give up Silesia, although the union with Lithuania and Ruthenia brought as a result the defeat of the German Order in the battle of Grunwald in 1410.

The power of the new Prussian state was slowly but steadily gaining in strength and from the very beginning the new state started by means of diplomacy or war to accomplish the task of uniting the main Brandenburg territory with the enclave of East Prussia.

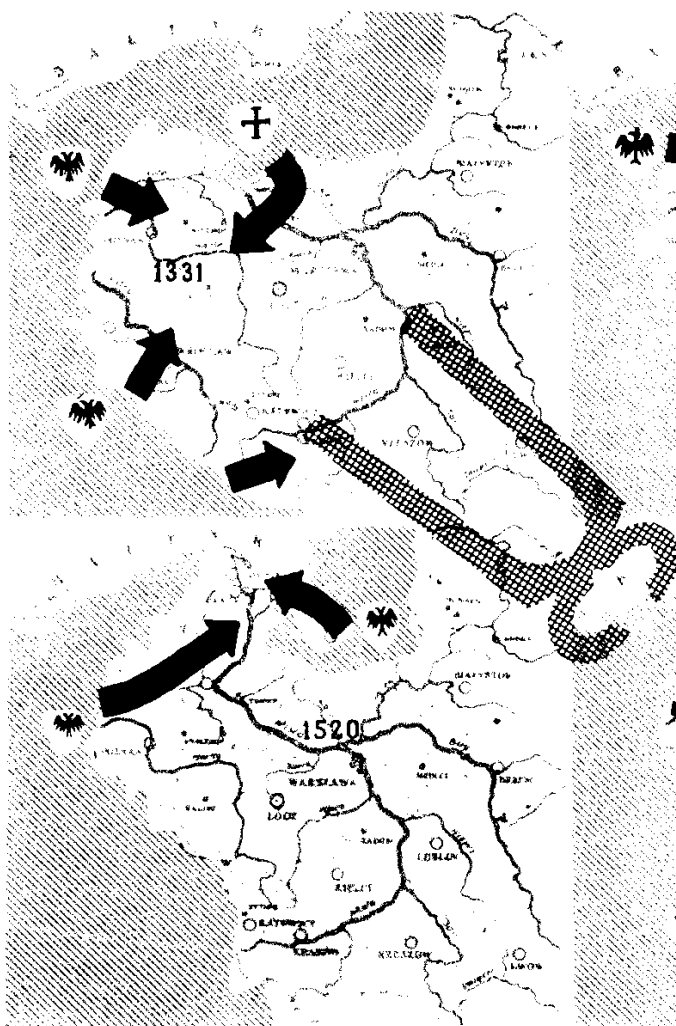
In 1772 the Prussian state finally achieved the first partition of Poland and took hold of Polish Pomerania. In 1795 all Polish territories became the booty of two German states: Prussia and Austria.

After the first world-war the restoring of Poland did not coincide with a liquidation of East Prussia. Once again the „corridor“ came into existence and once again the strategic bases on the right bank of the Odra river were a threat to our possibilities of defense. On the 1st September, 1939, using the 900 years old and well known tracks, the five German armies attacked Poland out from the old cradle of the Teutonic Knights through the corridor



TRACKS OF THE GERMAN INVASIONS

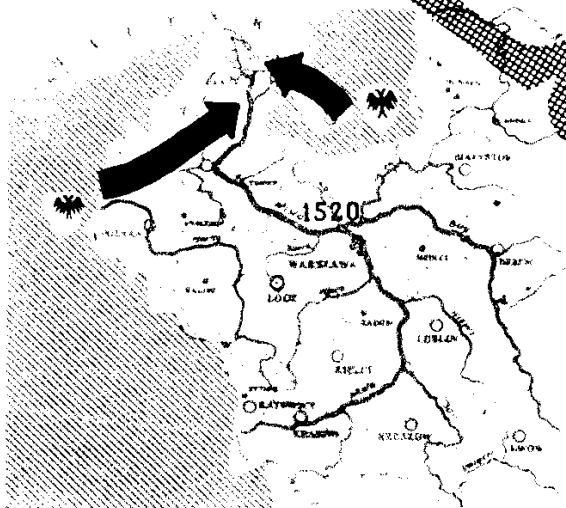
XIV-TH CENTURY,
THE LUXEMBURGS AND THE TEUTONIC
KNIGHTS.



XV-TH CENTURY,
BRANDENBURG AND THE TEUTONIC
KNIGHTS.



XVI-TH CENTURY,
BRANDENBURG AND THE TEUTONIC
KNIGHTS.



XX-TH CENTURY,
THIRD REICH.



and along the left bank of the Vistula, from Silesia through Czechoslovakia and the Slovak state. Armed forces from East Prussia and those from the right bank of the Odra river met in the very heart of Poland with armies which started their assault from the southern mountain passes.

Never can this happen again and it never will.

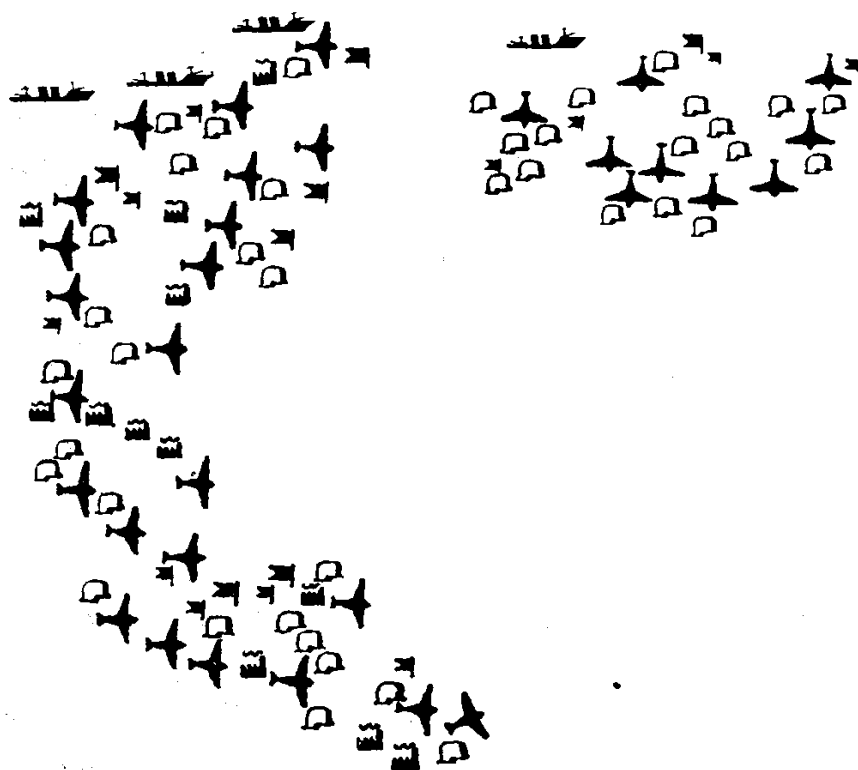
G E R M A N B A S E S O F A D V A N C E







The Versailles Treaty granted Germany the permission to maintain an army of 100.000 men. This army consisted of 7 infantry and 3 cavalry divisions of which 6 divisions were located in the East. The infantry divisions were dispersed as follows: in Prussia (Königsberg), in Pomerania (Stettin), in Silesia and in Brandenburg; the cavalry units were stationed in Prussia and Silesia. Few years after the first World War the Germans were preparing already for another war against Poland and that it had to be a war of aggression is easily proved by plans of the German High Command and General Staff.

As soon as the reorganisation of the German army was completed by Hitler, the garisons in the east of Germany were increased. The Reichswehr divisions became corps. In peace time in East Prussia were 4 infantry divisions and one cavalry brigade, in Pomerania 3 infantry divisions, in the Lubusz area 1 infantry and 2 fortress divisions (the fortified Steinberg line), and in Silesia there were 3 infantry divisions. Beside this dispersed over the whole territory were armed an air-force units.

An interesting moment in these preparations was the creation of four reserve commands of corps in Piła, Wałcz, Słupsk and Wrocław, which bore numbers of former imperial corps. These units were stationed on territories recognised by the Versailles Treaty as Polish territories. When the September campaign was over these reserve units were transfered to Poland and became new corps. The „symbol” turned into reality in another bloody war.

GERMAN BASES OF ADVANCE



-  — SEA BASES
-  — AIR BASES
-  — GARRISONS
-  — CORPS' STAFF
-  — DIVISIONS'S STAFF
-  — WAR INDUSTRY

P O L A N D S U F F E R E D G R E A T L O S S E S

During the last war Poland lost 6.028 thousand of her citizens. A particularly severe blow was the loss from the ranks of the Polish intelligentsia, amongst others: 5.610 lawyers acting in Polish courts of justice, 10.500 doctors, dentists and people serving in the welfare activity, 794 professors of universities and scientific associations, approx. 5.700 teachers of high schools and professional schools, 9.000 officers, over 3.000 priests (catholic and protestant), 455 musicians and actors, 15.000 people from the railway services, the post service, insurance companies, technicians and officials.

Material losses amounted to:

damage to capital invested in estates	\$ 2.495.974.235,10
taken from the production and services during the German occupation	\$ 1.078.904.991,95

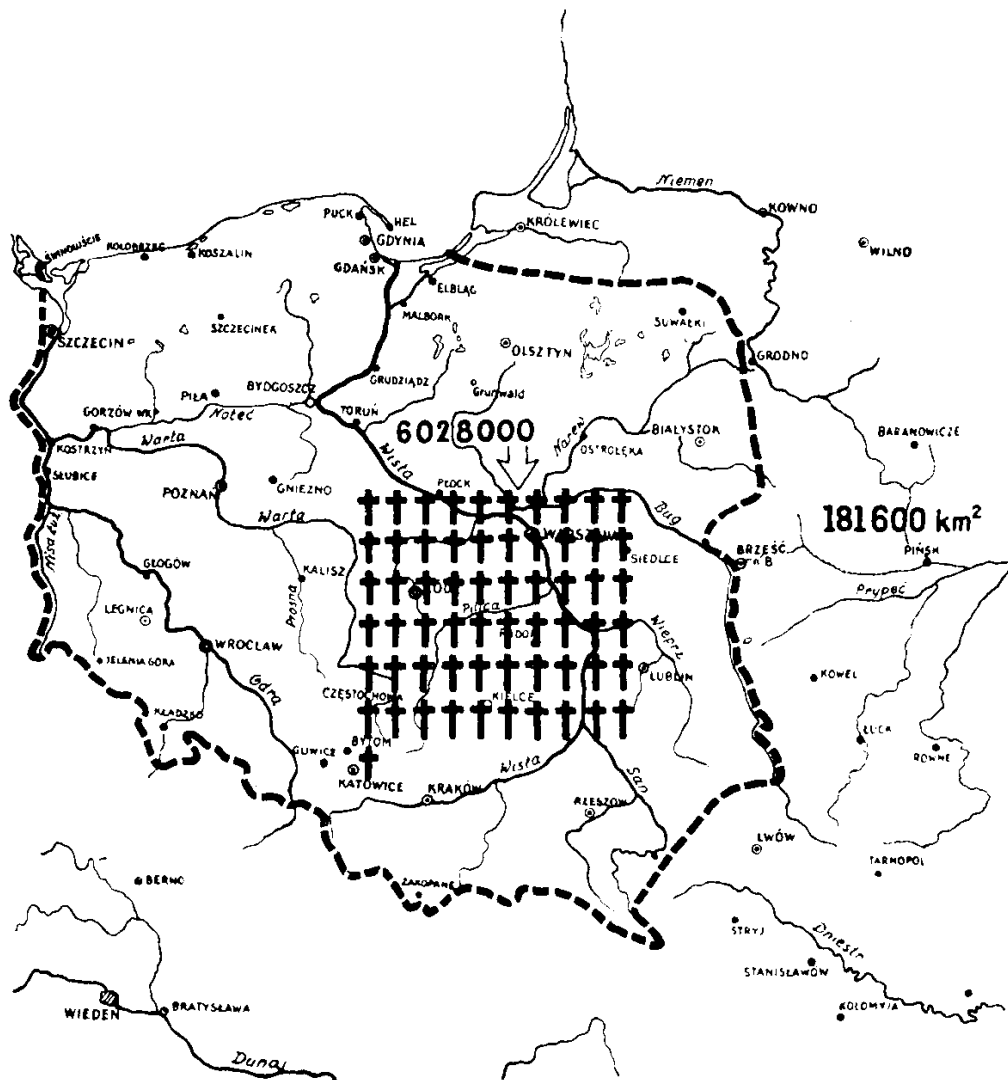
Indirect losses including the cost of rebuilding, loss in production inflicted due to damage immediately after the war, loss in surplus production due to loss of human lives and invalidship and decrease in efficiency of labour and capital interests in the post war period gives a total of \$ 6.827.697.262,48.

Finally, sharing the task of stabilising the bases of a world peace, Poland ceded in the East:

Poland resigned		Gained	Difference
Territory	69.866 mil	38.986 mil.	30.880 mil.
Populating capacity	12.000.000 mil.	8.200.000 mil.	3.800.000 mil.
Agriculture land	25.947.458,68 acres	14.826.822,71 acres	11.119.500 acres
Woods	10.131.100 acres	5.683.300 acres	4.447.800 acres

Apart from this Poland had to cede oil fields, calcium salts, basalts and newly discovered coal mines in the Sokal district.

POLAND SUFFERED GREAT LOSSES



ONE CROSS = 100,000 KILLED.

THE FRONT STABILISED ON THE ODR A

During their retreat behind the Oder line the Germans behaved towards monuments of the Polish ancient culture in the most brutal way. Nearly all the towns were burnt during the German retreat. Old quarters of the towns which were built under the rule of the dukes from the Piast dynasty were destroyed by fire. What did not perish in the flames was mined and blown up by the Germans.

Frontal fights did the rest and as a result Poland took over the Western Territories in a state of vast destruction. Out of 4 million inhabitable apartments only 1.427.000 — i. e. 35% — remained intact. The destruction of houses amounted to 65% and of public buildings to a still higher percentage.

The industry was 70% destroyed. The main bulk of destruction was in the synthetic fuel production (100%), coal-products (95%), artificial fertilizers, zinc and glass production (90%), stone and lime mines, production of machines and fashioning machines (80%).

Railways were 58,2% destroyed. From a total of 6.653,33 mil. of railway lines 4.699.648 mil. were destroyed. Railway bridges were demolished 58,2%. From a total of 60.620 r. m. of other bridges 33.555 r. m. were destroyed. 50% of railway buildings were blown up or burned out.

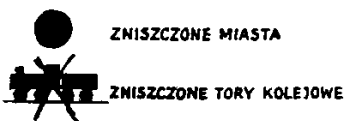
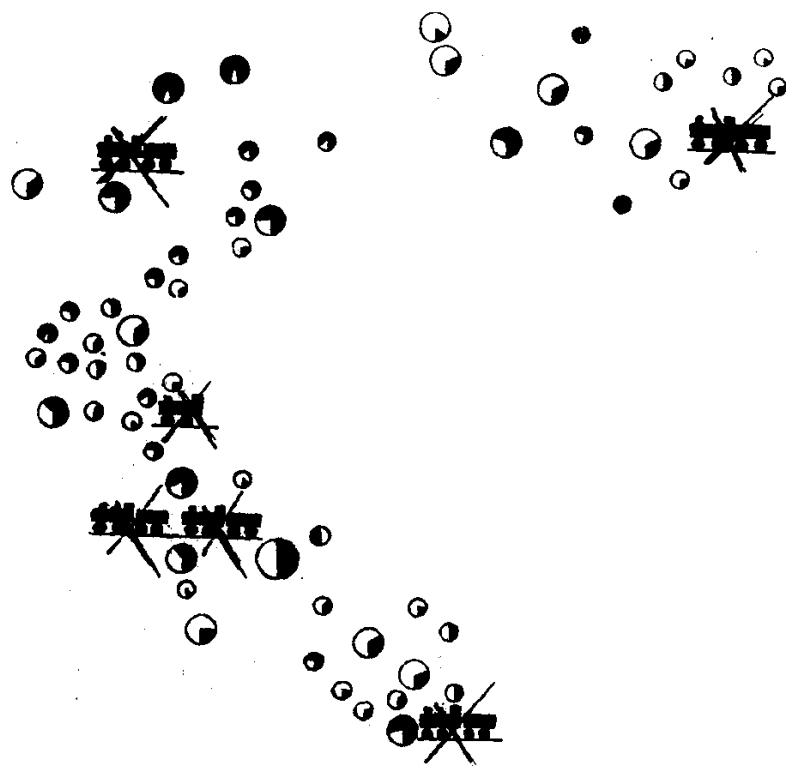
25% of the hard-surface main roads were destroyed.

The country-side was deprived of live-stock. The few farms which succeeded to evade destruction were poor, the rest suffered severe damage. 14% of the existing farms were destroyed 15—40%, over 40% destruction suffered further 11% of farms.

In this way Poland took over the Recovered Territories in a state of ruin and devastation.

The new life had to start with the rebuilding of all branches of economic life. The Polish nation started this task with zeal and energy, as here is the land of its fathers and its future.

THE FRONT STABILISED ON THE ODRA



DESTRUCTION OF CITIES AND COMMUNICATION.

CONCENTRATION CAMPS AND THE FRONT. BREAK-DOWN OF LOSSES

Due to the fact that the Germans carried out their programme of biological extermination of Polish people in a most consistent way, losses in human life amount to 22,2% of the entire Polish population in 1939. In penal or concentration camps aimed for extermination, during the liquidation of the ghetto, the pacification activity in the country in public executions as well as due to overwork, sufferings and misery approx. 5.384.000 persons found their death.

Beside losses in human life which together with losses inflicted by hostilities amount to 6.028.000, due to a conscious occupation policy, the war became the cause of a considerable decrease in the birth rate, which in comparison with 1939 figures amounted to 1.215.000. Overall it gives a total loss of 7.250.000 persons in the biological potential of the nation, which means approx. 30% of the present population figures.

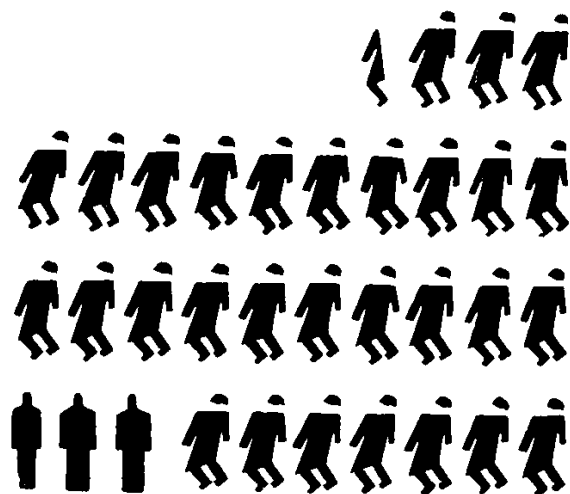
Difficult war circumstances also increased the death rate from 13% to 18%, in case of babies from 10,9% to 26,5%.

Polish losses on the fighting — fronts amounted only to 123.000 — 0,5% of the total population figure which in comparison with losses inflicted by the extermination activity of the Germans is the best proof of German guilt and responsibility, the more if we take into consideration that German losses caused to the German population by bombing and front casualties amount only to 5% of the 1939 population figures. But this was the German aim: to achieve a biological destruction of the Polish nation.

German hopes and plans happily did not work out. On territories consisting of a part of Poland today, in 1938 — 29.600.000 persons were living. At present there are only 24 million settlers but this figure is liable to increase very soon. It must be taken into consideration that 300.000 Poles will return from Germany, another 100.000 from other western countries, 574.000 from the U. S. R. R. and 300.000 German citizens of Polish origin should come back from Germany and the U. S. R. R. (now being prisoners of war as former members of the Wehrmacht). Beside this out of 800.000 pre-war Polish emigrants to France, Belgium and Germany approx. 400.000 will return to their home country, which gives a total of 25.674.000 persons.

This is our starting figure which begins the march towards a new and better future.

CONCENTRATION CAMPS AND THE FRONT. BREAK-DOWN OF LOSSES



GERMANS

SOLDIER'S FIGURE = 100.000 FALLEN
ON THE FRONT.

CIVIL PERSON'S FIGURE = 100.000 KILLED
BY THE BOMBS.

POLES

SOLDIER'S FIGURE = 100.000 FALLEN
ON THE FRONT.

CIVIL PERSON'S FIGURE = LOSSES AT-
TAINED OWING TO THE CONCENTRATION
CAMPS.

WAR DESTRUCTION OF THE RECOVERED TERRITORIES

The Polish authorities taking over the Recovered Territories had to cope with the question of a nearly complete devastation. An idea of this destruction is given in the comparative table of devastation on the Recovered Territories and the rest of the rest of the country:

	Total number of farming estates	Total number of farms destroyed or damaged	Total of losses in thousands dollars	Total % of destruction compared with the amount of farms
Recovered Territories	449.701	123.793	173.406	27,5
Old Territories	1.664.310	343.149	299.788	20,6

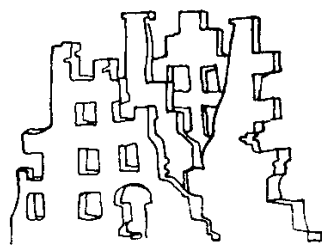
	Total number of municip. real estates destroyed or damaged	Buildings destroyed or damaged in m ³	Total figure of losses in thousands dollars
Recovered Territories	177.824	305.085,1	918.673
Old Territories	152.191	233.315,4	895.945

The total amount of losses in dollars amounts for farm- and municipal buildings to:

Old Territories	1.195.734 dollars
Recovered Territories	1.092.079 "
Total	2.287.813 dollars

The above figure does not include buildings of the communication system, military and industrial buildings.

WAR DESTRUCTION OF THE RECOVERED TERRITORIES



54%

DEVASTATION IN TOWNS



70%

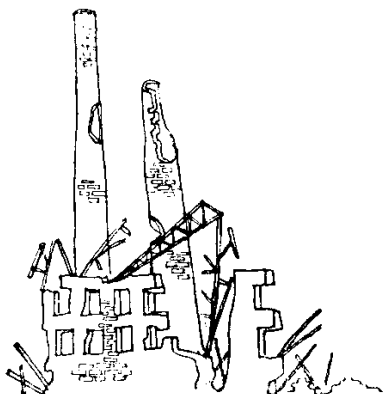


50%



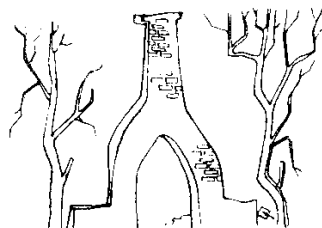
25%

DEVASTATION IN COMMUNICATION



70%

DEVASTATION IN INDUSTRY



27.5%

DEVASTATION IN VILLAGES

THE GERMANS DID NOT WANT TO SETTLE IN THE EAST

During the last century a constant and numerous withdrawal of the population from the eastern territories of Germany was taking place. Two factors were simultaneously co-acting in this phenomenon, namely:

- an emigration to foreign countries, and
- a dislocation of human groups towards the West of Germany to towns and industry.

This movement of the population towards the West was caused by a change in the social structure and the economic conditions of these territories. The phenomenon known as „the flight from the East“ (Ostflucht) or „flight from land“ (Landflucht) was — so to say — nothing else than the symptom of a slow deterioration and dying out of these areas of Germany:

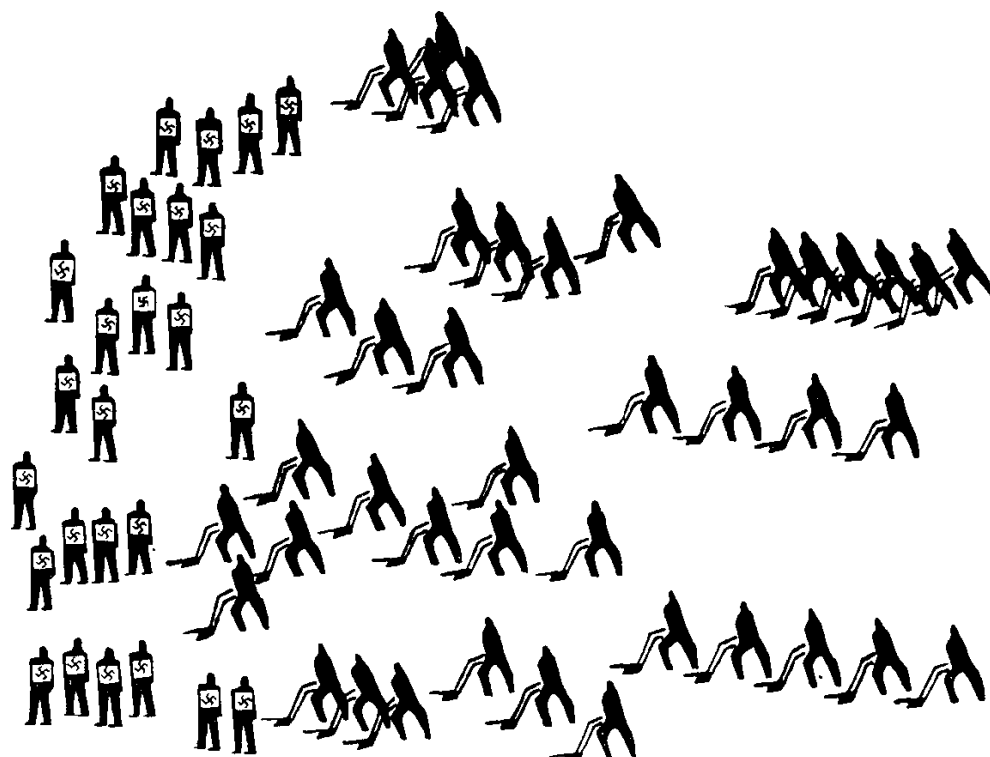
Years	Influx — (plus) Withdrawal — (minus) of the population in thousands	Years	Influx — (plus) Withdrawal — (minus) of the population in thousands
1840—51	plus 146,8	1861—70	minus 431,1
1871—80	minus 547,6	1881—90	minus 1170,6
1851—60	minus 70,9	1891—1900	minus 928,4
1900—10	minus 842,9	1910—25	minus 85,9
1925—33	minus 325,7	1933—39	minus 207,9

Adding losses inflicted by the withdrawal of the population as result we are obtaining a considerable figure which in less than a century (1852—1939) amounted to 4,7 million persons. At the same time on the Recovered Territories which consisted then of the eastern parts of Germany, the same figure amount to 2,8 million persons, that means nearly 70% peasants of this area.

The table below illustrates in approx figures the withdrawal of the population from particular territories:

Regeneration	Thousands of persons 1910—1939	Regeneration	Thousands of persons 1910—1939
Królewiec	+ 6,3	Koszalin	— 70,0
Gąbin	— 81,8	Frankfurt	+ 4,1
Olsztyn	— 121,3	Piła	48,6
Gdańsk		Wrocław	— 121,0
Kwidzyna	— 28,1	Opole	158,8
Szczecin	+ 23,4	Lignica	33,8

THE GERMANS DID NOT WANT TO SETTLE IN THE EAST



ONE SYMBOL = 20.000 PEOPLE

Therefore in the middle of the XIX century the quota of country and town population of this area was 3 : 1 (more exactly 77 : 23). After 90 years had passed (in 1939) the figures changed into 1 : 1 (52 : 48).

This withdrawal of German country population even a long time before the war was placing the agriculture of the Recovered Territories in a very difficult situation forcing the latter to turn to hired labour of Polish seasonal-workers.

During the period 1900—1937 the figures for Polish workers on Recovered Territories amounted in some years to 800.000.

The Potsdam decision was a just and reasonable act. Germany lost farming land which the Germans did not want or could not cultivate themselves. Since then the former farm-worker, a Pole who for years was cultivating this soil as hired labour, now started to cultivate the land as its owner and on his account.

POLAND - GERMANY: POPULATION STRUCTURE

In spite of the escape of German people from the eastern territories, one of Hitler's main slogans was the famous „Volk ohne Raum“, a nation deprived of living space.

Was the Third Reich really overpopulated? In 1939 the density of population in Germany amounted to 148 inhabitants to the sq. km. (371 to 1 sq. mile). At present the figures for the Reich are 171 to the sq. km. The population density on territories adjudicated to Poland in Potsdam and including the industrial area of Upper Silesia was approx. 159 inhabitants to the sq. km., which is a characteristically low rate as the real figure is only 50 inhabitants to the sq. km. The same rate for the whole of Poland amounted to 92 inhabitants, in the central Voievodshpis — 110, in the Silesia Voievodship — 299, and in the Kraków Voievodship — 131.

Industrial countries like Germany can and should afford to have more inhabitants per 1 sq. km. than agricultural ones. In Germany only 20,9% of the population were farmers, in Poland — 60,9% and in the Netherlands — 20,6%. In Germany there were 0,47 inhabitants to the hectare of farming land, in the whole of Poland — 0,56 and in the overpopulated central areas — 1,56. So it was not Germany but Poland who was overpopulated. The best proof of it is the regular season-emigration to Germany in search of farmwork. This emigration reached the figure of 800.000 persons yearly. The German East was depopulating at a fast rate.

The high birth rate in Poland increasing from year to year was another factor which caused the overpopulating of our countryside. In the period 1932—1938 this increase amounted to a 12% average of the whole population, in towns — 3,2%. This unusual high birth rate in the country and in towns was causing further trouble to our demographic structure.

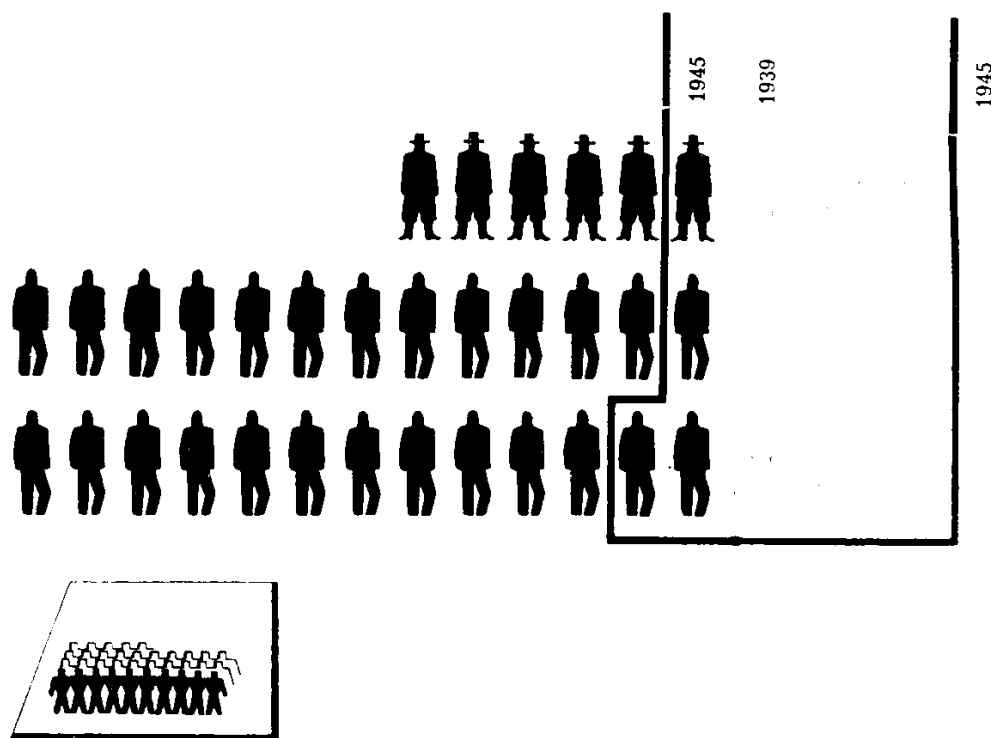
In Germany in spite of all efforts Hitler did not succeed in increasing the birth rate over 7,3% (in 1939 — 3,5%). It should be added that the death rate in Poland was 14% whilst in Germany it amounted only to 11,6%.

German scientists realised only too well what a demographic catastrophe was threatening Germany. In 1939 a prominent German demograph prof. Burgdorfer in his publication „Zurück zum Agrarstaat“ stated that the year 1945 should become a turning point and after this critical date a steady decrease of population figures would take place in the Reich. According to his expectations the population of Germany would decrease at the following rate:

in 1945	67.000.000 inhabitants
in 1960	65.000.000 inhabitants
in 1975	60.000.000 inhabitants.

The war has speeded up this process.

POLAND - GERMANY: POPULATION STRUCTURE



BLACK COLOUR — GERMANY 1939

GREEN COLOUR — POLAND 1939

ONE SYMBOL — 2 MILION INHABITANTS

UPPER ROW — POPULATION OF VILLAGES

LOWER ROW — POPULATION OF TOWNS

THE BLACK LINE REPRESENTS THE CHANGES IN POPULATION STRUCTURE OF GERMANY AND POLAND IN CONNECTION WITH CHANGES OF FRONTIERS
POLAND HAS LOST 11 MILION OF INHABITANTS (2 MILION OF URBAN POPULATION) RECEIVING PLACE FOR 8 MILION INHABITANTS (6 MILION OF URBAN POPULATION)

In the course of change in population standards caused by the war through repatriation of Germans from Czechoslovakia (2,4 mill.), from Poland (approx. 3,6 mill.) and war losses in human life (approx. 3,5 mill.) the population density of Germany should increase approx. 10% and reach the figure of about 188 inhabitants to the sq. km. But it can be expected that a slow but steady decrease will take place in the future.

The high level of German industry and an agricultural reform shall facilitate the dislocation and transfers of the population. But if the calculations of prof. Burgdorfer, Sauermann and others are correct, a further considerable decrease in population figures and the density to the hectare of farming land can be expected in the future.

A M I L L I O N S U R V I V E D

As a rule after each military conquest in the East, a wave of German colonists poured over the new territories populated by Poles. Those colonists were backed in everything by their Prussian state yet did not succeed in ejecting the Polish population from the land.

When in the XIX-th century a strong wave of national feeling was rising, the German policy attacked with all her might the Polish minority which — although oppressed and deprived of rights — stubbornly stuck to the soil of their fathers. Bismarck started a cultural fight against the Polish language and the church, and finally a new law was issued which expelled the Poles from their land. A new period of extensive German colonisation was started but without greater success. Soon the Polish peasant not only was given back what he lost but very often could increase his possession.

The „democratic“ character of the Weimar Government did not interfere with the Bismarck policy, but the peak of German chauvinism was reached by Hitler's Germany. The new inheritance law and the prohibition of stay in the frontier zone for Poles was undermining the economical bases of Polish life. Mass reprisals for speaking Polish and finally murders and concentration camps were aimed at a biological extermination of Poles.

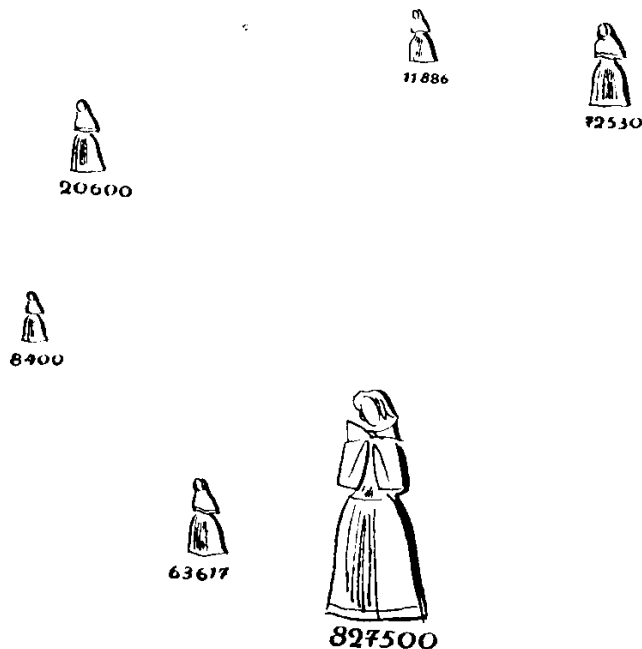
The Polish population, for centuries settled on these territories, suffered great losses, was decimated, but in spite of all held on to the homes of their fathers.

When the front moved ahead the German population was in havoc withdrawing from territories where they never did feel at home. The Soviet and Polish troops in their advance were greeted and cheered everywhere by Poles who, after being for centuries under foreign rule and torn away from their mother country, were bearing up against odds and did not forget their language nor abandoned their fathers' faith.

The Polish authorities started immediately the task of granting Polish citizenship to persons of Polish origin. As result of the verification operations Polish citizenship was granted to:

in Opole Silesia	850.000 Poles
in Warmia and Mazury	117.000 Poles
in Gdańsk and district	25.000 Poles
in Szczecin Voievodship	24.000 Poles
in Wroclaw Voievodship	15.000 Poles
in the Lubusz District	6.000 Poles
Total:	<hr/> 1.037.000 Poles

A M I L L I O N S U R V I V E D



The verification process is not yet finished, but even now the fact of the existence of such a great number of Poles after centuries of extermination is amazing and remarkable and testifies of the vitality of Polish elements in the Recovered Territories, which always were and never ceased to be Polish.

4,5 M I L L I O N P O L E S

At the moment when the Recovered Territories were taken over by Polish authorities, over a million persons of Polish origin was settled there. Since March, 1945, an unbroken tide of repatriants and settlers, Poles, started to pour towards the West, reaching in the last months of 1946 a total of approx. 3,5 million persons. The average increase amounted to 162.000 monthly.

This figure would have been undoubtedly much higher, but only in January, 1945, an agreement with the authorities of the British occupation zone in Germany based on the Potsdam decisions and laying out the repatriation rates for Germans, was concluded. Therefore a regulated and organised immigration process was started only in February, 1946, reaching a total of 1.500.000 Polish settlers. During earlier periods — till February, 1946 — in course of a spontaneous immigration, over 2 million Poles poured into the Recovered Territories.

The following table illustrates the increase of the Polish population in the Recovered Territories:

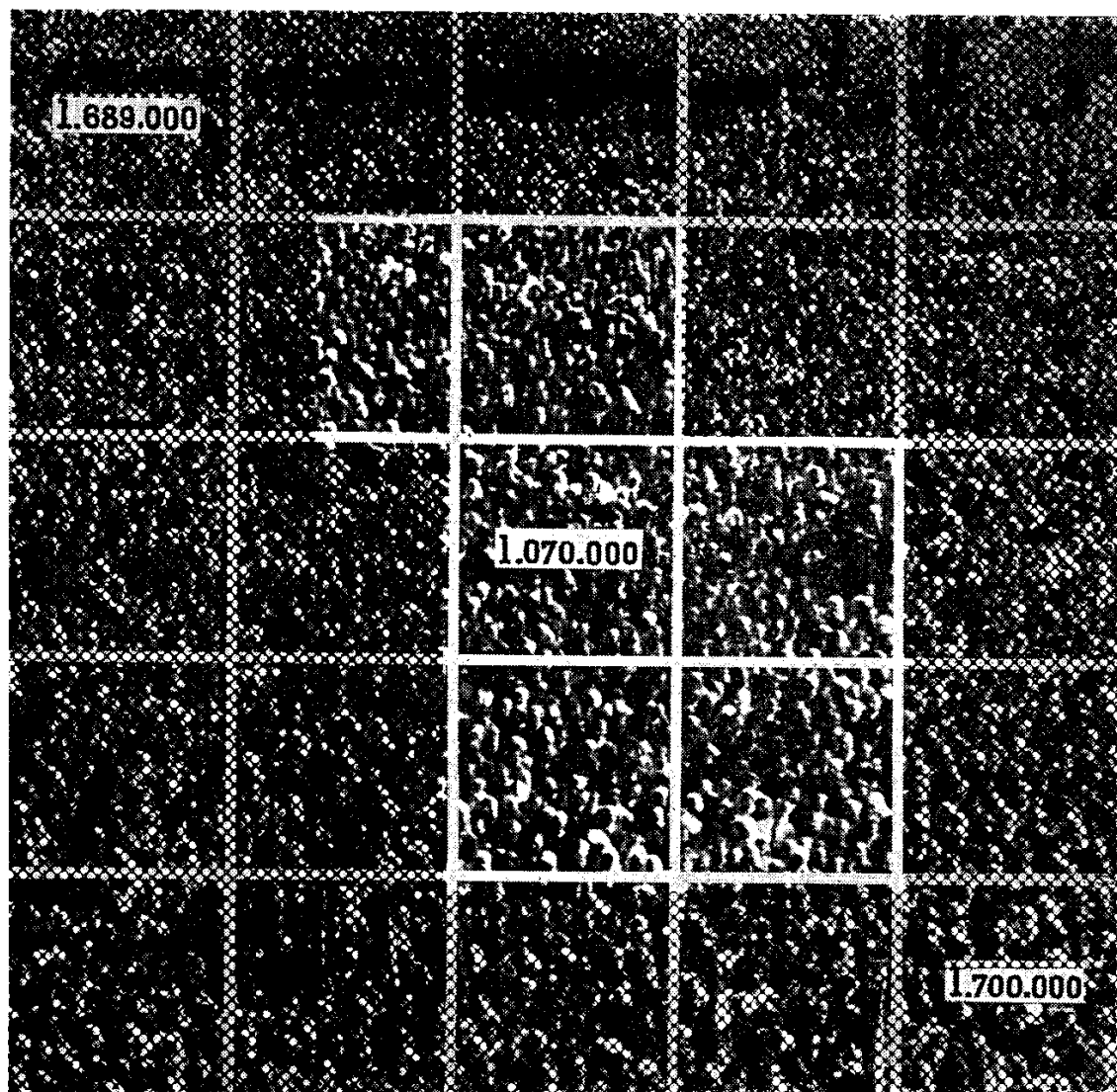
May 1945 . . .	1.000.000	purely Polish inhabitants
14. Feb. 1946 . . .	2.800.000	" " "
15. Nov. 1946 . . .	4.237.000	" " "
1. Dec. 1946 . . .	4.392.000	" " "
1. Jan. 1947 . . .	4.474.000	" " "

Amongst the repatriated Polish citizens now settled in the Recovered Territories, the main part consists of elements which arrived from the East (1.400.000) the rest are persons repatriated from the West.

It ought to be mentioned that the majority of those repatriated from the East are peasants who often bring with them their live-stock, implements and tools which greatly facilitate the possibility of restoring agricultural life of the land on which they were settled.

The figure of 4.5 million Poles who settled on the Recovered Territories is a considerable achievement but by no means is the limit of our possibilities. Approximately 2 million persons from the overpopulated central parts of Poland shall be transferred to the Recovered Territories. A further 1.600.000 Poles are expected to return from abroad. In this way in course of the rebuilding activity on the Recovered Territories this part of Poland shall receive the same number of population as existed there in 1939 when they were intact. The speed at which the populating of the Recovered Territories is being carried out despite the difficult post-war conditions, is the best test and guarantee that Poland's frontiers on the Odra and Nissa Łużycka are inviolable.

4,5 M I L L I O N P O L E S



SETTLERS

AUTOCHTONES

REPATRIANTS

ONE SQUARE = 180.000 PEOPLE.

THE RECOVERED TERRITORIES FREE OF GERMANS

During hostilities as a result of evacuation and repatriation approx. 88% of the German population left the Recovered Territories. In this way the demographic problem on these territories was basically solved by the Germans themselves.

From a total of approx. 3,5 million Germans still residing in these territories after they were taken over by the Polish administration by Feb. 1946, nearly 1,5 million of Germans had willingly left for the West. In frame of an organised deportation to Germany according to the Potsdam agreement and the decision of the Supreme Council for Germany dated 20 Nov. 1945, 1.602 thousand Germans left the Recovered Territories.

The decision forming a legal basis for the repatriation stated: „The entire German population due to be transferred **from Poland** (3.500.000) shall be received by the British zone (1.500.000), and the Soviet zone (2.000.000) of occupied Germany“. This decision was based on the agreement of the Potsdam Conference which was considering a „resettlement to Germany of the German population and the elements thereof still remaining in Poland“.

The human procedure of the carrying out of the above repatriation to the British zone was layed out by a special agreement between the Polish Government and the British authorities, co-acting in the repatriation scheme. The Germans are handed over at several points: in Silesia and in Pomerania to British authorities who are organising their further transport. From the moment of their departure the repatriated are provided with food and supplies for the journey according to norms layed out for the Polish population and medical treatment is being provided for them. The British authorities emphasized often the human way of the repatriation methods. One cannot help to think of the deportation of Poles from territories annexed in 1939 to the Reich...

The repatriation was carried out as follows:

14 Feb. 1946	
the German population of the Recovered Territories amounted to	2.076.000
1 Jul. 1946	
the German population of the Recovered Territories amounted to	1.307.000
1 Oct. 1946	
the German population of the Recovered Territories amounted to	787.000
1 Jan. 1947	
the German population of the Recovered Territories amounted to	474.000

The still remaining amount will be repatriated during 1947 and at present amounts to 10% of the population of the Recovered Territories.

THE RECOVERED TERRITORIES FREE OF GERMANS



WHITE SYMBOL = 200.000 POLES. BLACK SYMBOL = 200.000 GERMANS.

The final removing of Germans creates the possibility of settling an according amount of Poles on these territories. During 1947 when the repatriation of the German population shall come to an end the total amount of Poles on the Recovered Territories will be approx. 6 million.

T O W N S A R E A L R E A D Y P O L I S H

In 1939 the population of towns amounted in the Recovered Territories to 3,767,413, but in 1945 they were depopulated as the inhabitants in view of the approaching front line left their homes built on robbed Polish territory and fled to the mother-country behind the Łaba river. E. g. in Stettin where the figure of the pre-war population was 268,421 in May, 1946, were only 6,000 inhabitants of German nationality, as the population willingly was leaving our Recovered Territories.

Their place was taken by the Polish population which faced ruined and devastated towns. The first task and the chief condition of populating those towns became the problem of rebuilding destroyed and damaged flats and houses.

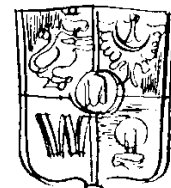
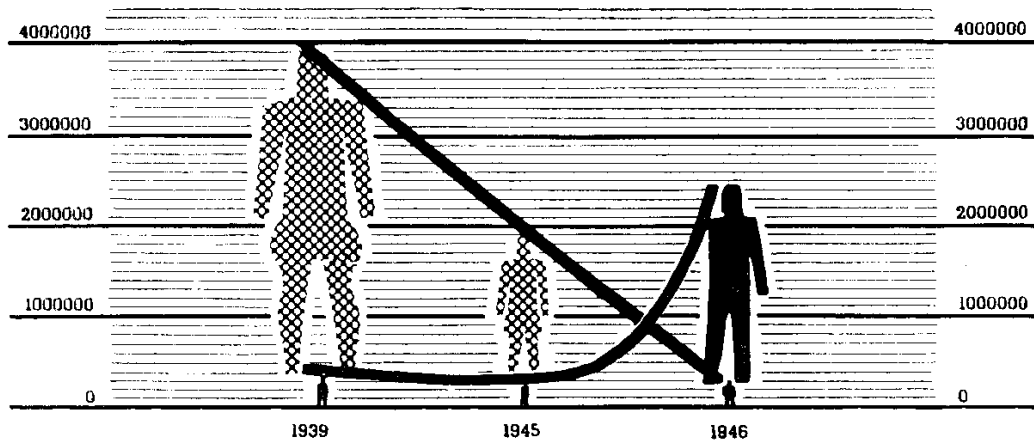
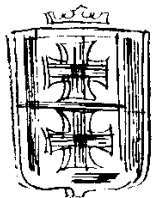
According to statistics on the 1-st Sept. 1946, the Polish population of the towns on Recovered Territories amounted already to 1,845,958, nearly 50% of pre-war figures. The inhabitants of towns were occupying 1,427,000 rooms in comparison with 4 million rooms in 1939. The density of population norms is in this way much higher than before the war. In the greatest cities of the Recovered Territories the figures of inhabitants pro room are:

	1939	1946
Wrocław (Breslau)	0,98	1,3
Szczecin (Stettin)	1,0	1,3
Gliwice (Gleiwitz)	1,2	1,2
Zabrze (Hindenburg)	1,3	1,3
Bytom (Beuthen)	1,3	1,4

The population of the towns is increasing with the rebuilding and as a rule the number of inhabitants is increased first and the new-comers are rebuilding their new homes. The speed at which the population of towns is increasing is particularly noticeable for Stettin where the figure of Polish inhabitants in Nov., 1946, was 110,000 persons.

The example of Stettin is as characteristic for other towns of the Recovered Territories. It is the Poles who are rebuilding them and Poles are populating them.

T O W N S A R E A L R E A D Y P O L I S H



REPATRIATION AND SETTLING

The German authorities started in 1939 to deplace from territories, annexed directly to the Reich, all the Polish population. At the same time Germans from the Baltic states, Volynien, the Cheim district and the East of Galicia were „imported“. Thus till 15-th October, 1940 — i. e. during a period of 18 months — 146.700 were transferred and the Germans propaganda claimed to have achieved a major success. In later periods the total amounted to over a million, but through the whole period of the war only 150.000 Germans from the Reich settled on Polish soil. In spite of all efforts of the German propaganda the German people were most unwilling to move to the new „German Lebensraum“.

When in February, 1945, the front was moving towards the Recovered Territories, the German population on their own accord were leaving their homes and fleeing to the interior of the Reich. Only one quarter of former German inhabitants remained on the spot. The abandoned areas soon were filling up with Poles coming from the central parts of the country and at later periods from territories which in accordance with the Yalta agreement were ceded to the U. S. R. R. After a period of 18 months the Polish population of the Recovered Territories reached the figure of 4.392.000 inhabitants. This great success has its origins in the fact that:

1. to the Recovered Territories was arriving the Polish population from areas of Poland ceded to the U. S. R. R.;
2. the Polish country-side was overpopulated;
3. Polish towns and villages suffered great destruction during the war.

Polish population on the Recovered Territories can be divided in the following groups, according to the place of their origin:

- a) the native Polish population (autochtones),
- b) settlers arriving from the central districts,
- c) repatriants.

Repatriants from behind the Curzon line are the most numerous group of the population of the Recovered Territories. This group will still increase as after the winter is over the repatriation from the U. S. R. R. shall be continued.

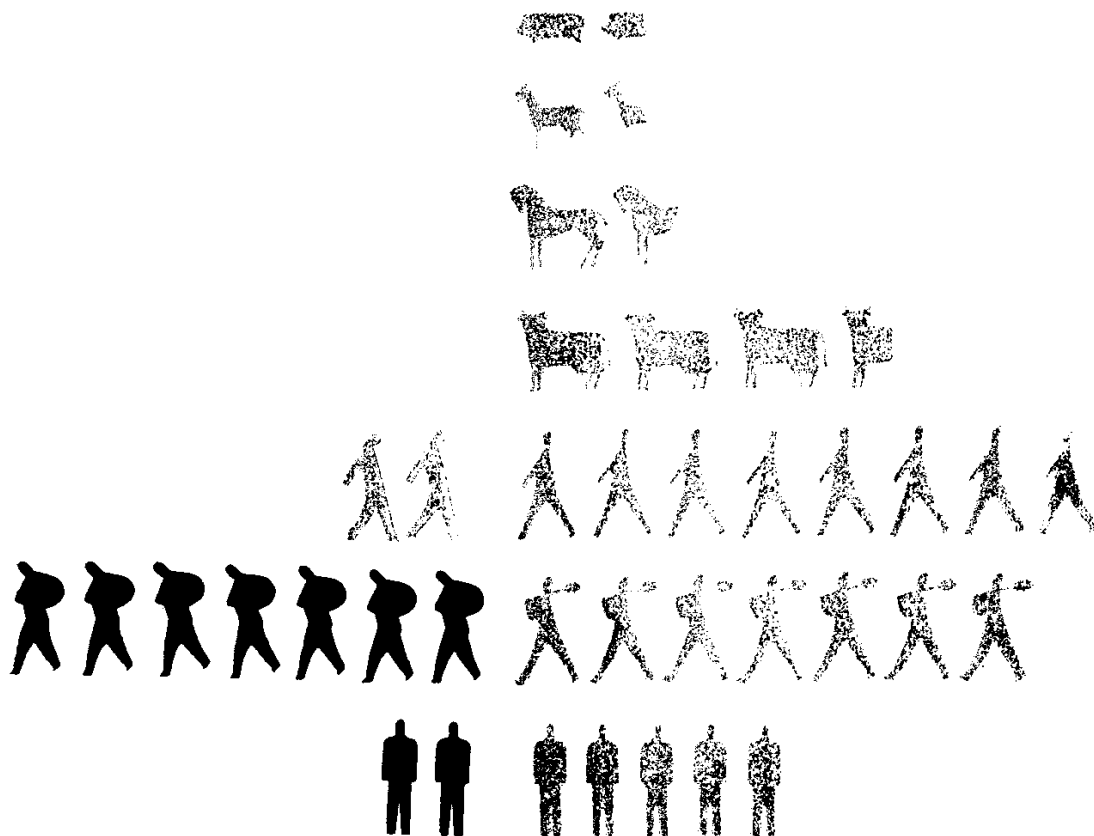
The urban population on the Recovered Territories (1.784.500) consists mainly of the population from destroyed towns of central Poland.

In the country the number of inhabitants amounts to 2.316.000. They were mostly settlers repatriated from territories taken over by the U. S. R. R. These settlers brought with them:

76.000 horses,	70.000 pigs,
169.000 cattle,	80.000 goats.

They are now organising their new farms and starting a new life.

REPATRIATION AND SETTLING



1 HUMAN SYMBOL = 180,000 PEOPLE
1 BESTIAL SYMBOL = 50,000 HEAD OF LIVE-STOCK
BLACK COLOUR = GERMANS. BROWN COLOUR = POLES.

LIFE IS STRONGER THAN DEVASTATION

The Polish farmer took over and became settler of 326.000 free farming estates.

The recalling to life and productive capacity of those farms was a tremendous task, as damage and debris had to be removed, fields cleared from mines and planted, houses had to be made habitable after they had been taken over by the Polish peasant.

This was not an easy job. 123.701 farms were devastated:

It was not a safe job either. In the Legnica district alone 30 tractors during ploughing work were blown up by mines and such accidents are happening nearly every day on the whole territory.

The clearing of mines had to be performed with the help of the authorities and the army.

By the end of 1946 saper units and miners checked up and cleared	32.134.886 mil.
Checked up for the second time	27.020.000 mil.
	<hr/>
	59.154.886 mil.

Demining and checking up of roads	57.841.776 mil.
Demining and checking up of railways	4.756.195 mil.
Demining and checking up of bridges	1.546.665 mil.
Destroyed mines	5.890.657 pcs.
Destroyed amunition	16.881.696 pcs.
Still undestroyed mines	1.750.000 pcs.
Still undestroyed shells	3.500.000 pcs.

Amongst these dangerous works is growing the new, exuberant Polish life--
stronger than devastation.

LIFE IS STRONGER THAN DEVASTATION

449 701

123 701

326 000

AGRICULTURAL HOLDINGS DESTROYED AND REHABILITATED

INDISPENSABLE FOR POLAND - SUPERFLUOUS FOR GERMANY

The Recovered Territories constitute 32% of the entire Polish territory. They are giving shelter to approx. 30% of the Polish population. Poland deprived of her Recovered Territories would become a political organism similar to the one, which was created in 1807 by the Tilsit Treaty under the name of „The Warsaw Duchy“. Forced into such frontiers Poland would be in a state of overpopulation and poverty, unable to exist and to be a useful factor of stabilisation of this part of Europe.

In spite of all destruction inflicted during the war, the share of the Recovered Territories in the economical life of Poland in 1949 is shown in the following table:

Item	The whole of Poland	Recovered Territories	The share of Recov. Terr. in %
In thousand of tons			
Coal	80.000	27.000	34%
Coke	1.500	510	34%
Pig-iron	1.300	326	25%
Superphosphate	400	95	24%
Timber and wood industry	90	40	44%

An average of 40—50% of the entire Polish productive capacity can be established for the Recovered Territories. The importance of these figures in the economical life of Poland cannot be denied nor underrated.

The Recovered Territories were 22% of the entire German state but were inhabited only by 11,8% of the German population. Their productive power in 1939 amounted to approx. 10% of the entire German industrial output giving work to only 9% of people employed in the industry. The power production of these territories amounted to only 6,3% and load-circles to only 7% of the German potential.

It must be remembered that the above percentage applies to a period when the German Reich was already using an autarchtic economy system in preparing for war, i. e. at the time when results were adequate to capital invested with an aim to achieve a definite purpose. Nor should it be forgotten that this percentage applies to the Recovered Territories before their devastation.

To Germany these territories had the meaning of an important base of their imperial policy towards neighbouring states in the East. They were also a territorial backing for Prussia and the Prussian Junkers, today for new Germany they are superfluous.

THE RECOVERED TERRITORIES WERE NOT GERMANY'S GRANARY

Although the German propaganda was insisting that the Recovered Territories were Germany's granary, it can be easily pointed out that in accordance with German specifications this statement was not true. Referring to the opinion of the German scientist Volz, the above slogan can be looked upon as politically and economically fantastic.

A considerable disproportion exists between the range of territories, ceded to Poland, (101.000 sq. km. = 21% of pre-war German territory), and their importance to the problem of supplying central and west Germany. Export surplus of the territories amounted to:

grain	325.000 t.	equal 3,2% of the supply quota of the whole of Germany
potatoes	670.000 t.	equal 2,5% of the supply quota of the whole of Germany
pigs	900.000 t.	equal 4,5% of the supply quota of the whole of Germany
cattle	200.000 t.	equal 1,5% of the supply quota of the whole of Germany

(the above figures are extracted from statements referring to the years 1927 and 1928 when crops were extremely good).

The phenomenon of such a low degree in the share of supplying Germany and the total of Germany's possibilities can be explained by the following reasons:

- a) the soil of the Recovered Territories was much poorer than the average German standard,
- b) atmospheric conditions were more difficult,
- c) the great percentage of woods and fallow land,
- d) a lower cultivation standard and therefore worse crops,
- e) the underpopulating of the country-side that e. g. in 1932 did not permit cultivation of 150.000 ha of farming land in the frontier zone (Grenzmark),
- f) the so called „Ostflucht — Landflucht“ — an escape of German farmers towards the West,
- g) difficulties in selling crops of these territories in the rest of Germany,
- h) in view of the abundance of produced wares and great distances, central and western Germany — being rather selfsupporting in the production of potatoes and grain — preferred to cover the supplies deficit with a cheap sea-import from overseas than to support the agriculture of the Recovered Territories.

THE RECOVERED TERRITORIES WERE NOT GERMANY'S GRANARY

...nur ein relativ bescheidener Anteil des östlichen Uberschusses findet Absatz im Reich (oft sogar zu völlig unzureichenden Preisen) und ein großer Teil bleibt unvertwertet.

„Die Ostdeutsche Wirtschaft“
Prof. Dr. W. Volz

PRODUCTION IS INCREASING

Those who did believe that Poland would succeed in rebuilding and managing the Recovered Territories used to call the latter „A Great Experiment“. But although on all sectors of this task the Poles had to overcome innumerable and tremendous difficulties, they proved that in solving problems of organising their economical life they are not inferior to other nations who suffered much less destruction and losses. The same applies to all branches of our industry which are showing an uninterrupted increase. The above can be proved by figures:

Mines of brown coal which at the time of German retreat had been flooded now are being rebuilt.

Coal output was recently stabilised at the average rate of 4,5 million tons monthly.

Output in million of tons.

	Extraction in 1946	Extraction rate at the end of 1946	Extraction expected in 1947
Pre-war Polish coal mines	32,8	37,4	37,8
Opole Silesia district	11,6	14,5	16,2
Lower Silesia district	2,9	3,1	3,5
Total output	47,3	55,0	57,5

These good results were achieved also in another branch of the most important economical sector — in smelting works:

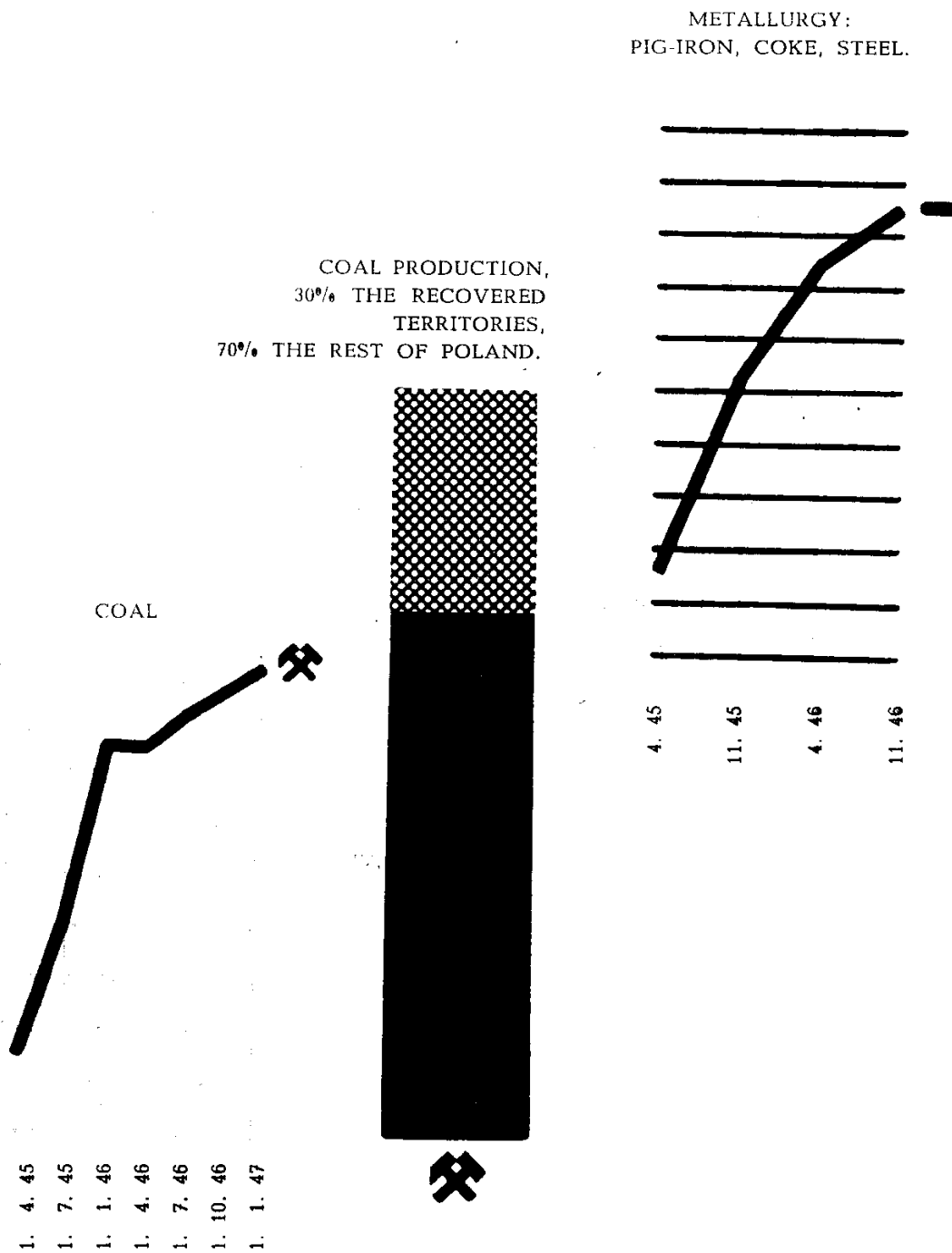
Productive capacity of Polish smelting-works in tons.

	whilst taken over in 1945	at present	after the realisa- tion of the 3-years plan in 1947
Coke production	1.100.000	1.100.000	1.500.000
Smelting-works	400.000	850.000	1.300.000
Steel-works	1.500.000	1.500.000	2.000.000
Rolling-mills	550.000	800.000	1.500.000

The uninterrupted output increase is the best guarantee that the Polish nation shall succeed in rebuilding their devastated country and overcoming all post-war difficulties.

The Recovered Territories are for Poland a creative and fully exploited element, the profits thereof being enjoyed not only by Poland but by the whole of Europe.

PRODUCTION IS INCREASING



3.200.000 H E C T A R E S C U L T I V A T E D

In the course of the 1946/47 farming period the Polish farmer will cultivate at least 3.200.000 ha, i. e. over $\frac{2}{3}$ of the arable land of the Recovered Territories. These figures can be better understood when considered with respect to conditions in which they were achieved.

The Germans removed from these territories the entire live-stock. Household equipment and tools were in a state of destruction or devastation. 123.795 farm-cottages suffered destruction or damage amounting to the value of 910,3 million pre-war Zlotys. The percentage of destruction amounts to 27,5% of the total number of farm buildings. Therefore the Polish state had to face tremendous difficulties in the task of restoration in the most unfavourable circumstances. Similar difficulties had to be overcome by the farmers who settled here after their arrival from former Polish eastern territories and the central districts of Poland. The results achieved are the proof of Polish heroism, labour and strain.

The solving of the population problem was by no means the limit of the task of restoring normal life in the Recovered Territories. The settlers were in bad need of inventory. The following is a table illustrating difficulties which still are to be overcome:

1939	1946 (Dec.)
860.000 horses	230.000 horses
3.920.000 cattle	470.000 cattle

From the above figures settlers who arrived from territories ceded by Poland to the U. S. R. R. brought with them:

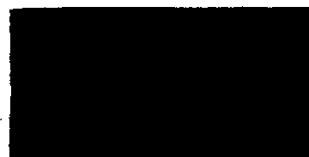
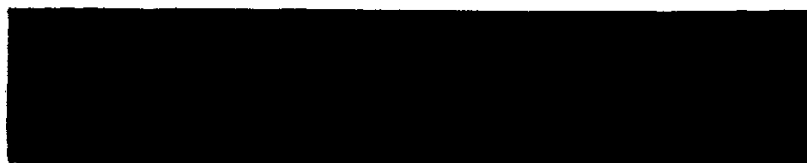
75.911 horses
168.903 cattle

and from U. N. R. R. A. supplies amounting to 79.458 were allocated.

In Spring 1945 a total of 832.000 hectares was cultivated leaving 3.811.000 fallows. During 1945/46 a total of 1.360.000 hectares was cultivated with only 3.282.000 fallows. In Autumn 1946/47 1.628.856 hectares of land was ploughed and 1.231.228 hectares sown, which together with field work during the Spring gives a total of 3.200.000 hectares of cultivated land.

During the farming season 1947/48 a total of 4.200.000 hectares is expected to be cultivated and no fallow land should be left.

3.200.000 H E C T A R E S C U L T I V A T E D



GREEN COLOUR — CULTIVATED AREAS
BLACK COLOUR — FALLOWS

C O A L F O R E U R O P E

The following table illustrates last year's results of Polish coal campaign as well as some pre-war figures concerning results of the coal-regions, now belonging to Poland. 1929 is especially emphasized as the top year in their coal production. 1933 represents the extraction in the years of economic crisis. 1938 can be taken as a basis for comparison, being the last pre-war year, in which the coal industry developed almost in full its possibilities in view of the approaching war.

Collieries of the region:	in millions of tons:			
	1929	1933	1938	1946
Poland within the 1938 boundaries	46,2	27,3	38,1	32,8
Opole Silesia	22,0	15,6	26,0	11,6
Lower Silesia (Wałbrzych)	6,1	4,4	5,3	2,9
Total:	74,3	47,3	69,4	47,3

The table demonstrates that the 1946 extraction equals that of 1933. The year 1933 was a year of crisis. Nevertheless, the average extraction for 1929 and 1933 amounts to 60,8 million tons.

Polish mining is already approaching that average, 1946 yearly results are as follows (December extraction being taken as a basis for the yearly estimate):

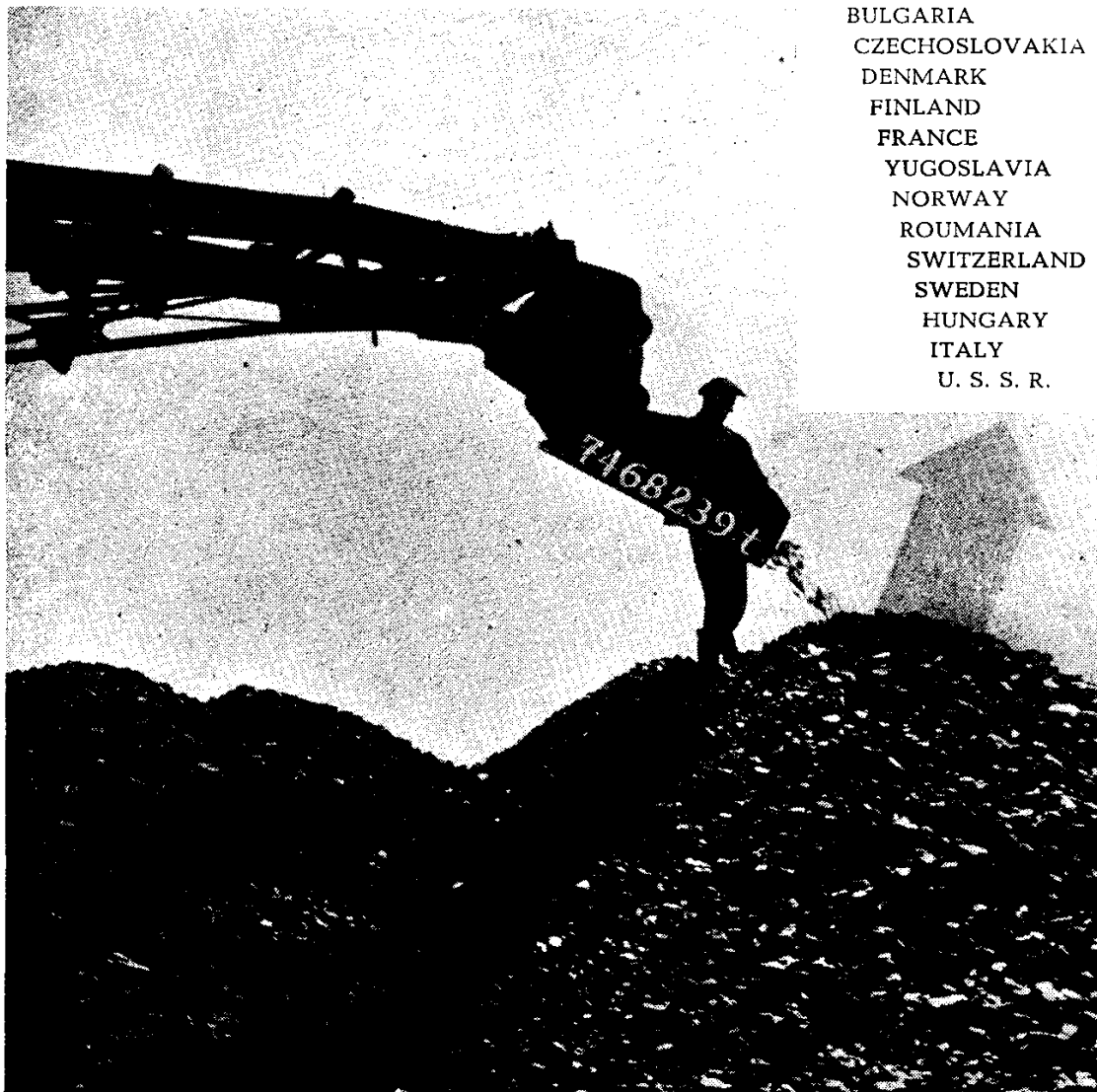
Collieries of the region:	1938		1946	
	in millions of tons:	%	in millions of tons:	%
Poland within the 1938 boundaries	38,1	100	37,4	98
Opole Silesia	26,0	100	14,5	56
Lower Silesia (Wałbrzych)	5,3	100	3,1	58
Total:	69,4	100	55,0	79

This table demonstrates the dynamism of rehabilitation of production in the respective coal basis.

Polish coal production within the 1938 boundaries already attained pre-war figures. Those results were due to a large increase of efficiency. In April, 1945, the general capacity amounted to 486 kg for head of miner, and in terms of underground crew, 1043 kg. Up to September, 1946, the capacity increased to 1053 kg and 1580 kg respectively.

C O A L F O R E U R O P E

AUSTRIA
BULGARIA
CZECHOSLOVAKIA
DENMARK
FINLAND
FRANCE
YUGOSLAVIA
NORWAY
ROUMANIA
SWITZERLAND
SWEDEN
HUNGARY
ITALY
U. S. S. R.



T H E R I V E R O D R A

The entire water system of the river Odra amounts to a total of 118.611 sq. km. of which 105.000 sq. km. — i. e. 89% — is inside the Polish borders. Similarly almost the entire river basin of the Vistula, over 198.000 sq. km., is in Polish hands. It can be said without exaggeration that on the banks of the Vistula and Odra lies the whole of Poland.

The Odra has particularly developed the right affluents their river basins being 70,4% of the entire river system. The most important place is allotted to the river Warta as her water system is directly linked with the Vistula basin thorough the river Noteć, the Bydgoszcz canal and the river Ner. Whilst it is rather difficult to determinate the demarcation line between the Vistula and the Odra, on the left side the demarcation line is clearly noticeable and runs directly due west of the Odra and the Nissa Łużycka.

In view of this geographical configuration the Odra in the German water-system during the period 1919—1939 was **supplying only a part** of its basin.

The great economical importance of the river Odra arises from the fact that she supplies a cheap and comfortable water-route for the industry of Upper Silesia, the agriculture of the Poznań Region and Lower Silesia, and gives possibilities of transit from Czechoslovakia to Szczecin as well as being a link between the Danube and the Baltic.

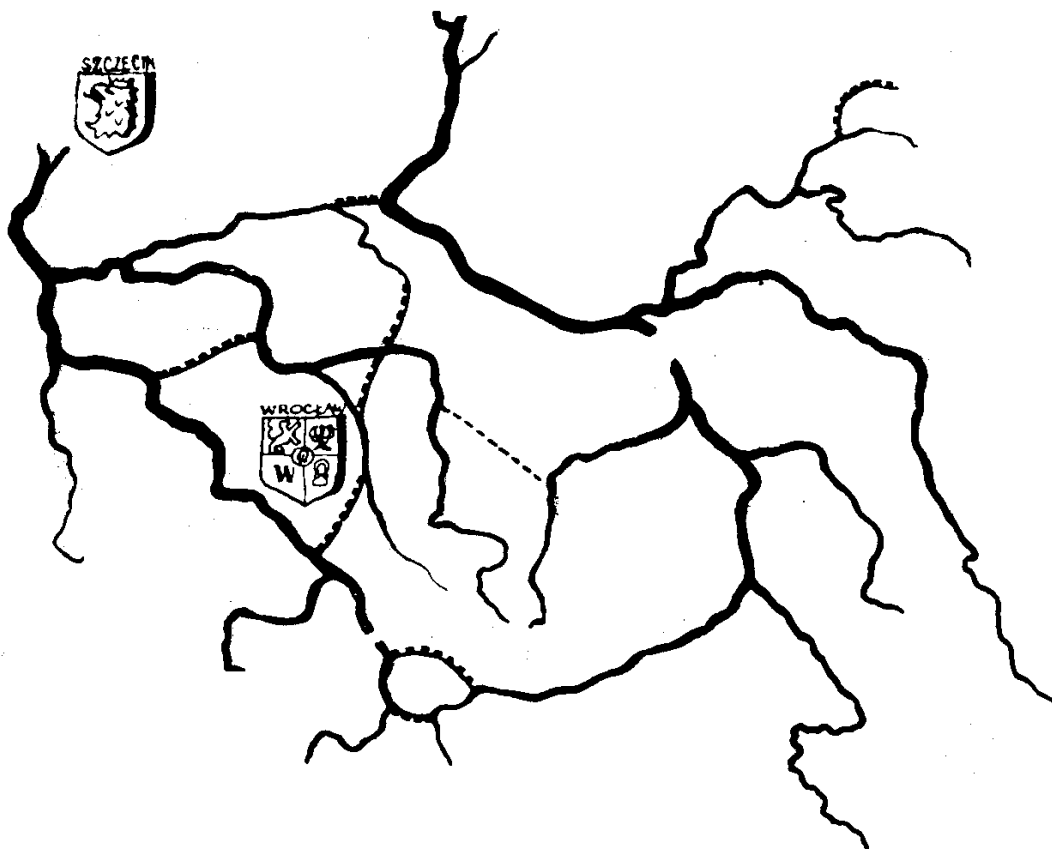
At the time when the Odra was taken over by Poland the following transport stock was available there: 6 tug-boats and 30 barges instead of 600 tug-boats and 2.500 barges used on the river in 1939. All harbour and port facilities were destroyed and submerged boats were stopping any traffic. In 1946 a total of 70 barges was made serviceable and 11 tug-boats repaired.

In 1947 when the sailing season starts, Poland will be in a position to undertake the transport of 60.000 tons of coal monthly on 200 barges which will supply ores for Silesia on their journey back.

The Three Year Plan in reference to the Odra includes investments of a value of 5 billion Zlotys value during the period 1947—1949. 615 barges of a total tonnage 217.000 tons will be raised from the bottom of the river and made serviceable. Another 203 barges — total tonnage 101.000 t. — will be supplied by the home industry. Poland intends also to purchase abroad 134 barges of 500 tons each and tug-boats totalling 20.000 HP. Another 57 tug-boats will be repaired at home. The capacity of water-reservoirs will be increased by 1949 to a total of 338 million cub. m.

The realisation of this programme of reconstruction will put Poland in a position to use the Odra as a transport route for 2,5 million tons of coal

T H E R I V E R O D R A



and 1,8 million of ores. The export and import from Silesia, instead of being directed to Gdańsk and Gdynia by land-routes — will be despatched by natural water routes to Szczecin thus permitting Poland to participate in the rebuilding task of devastated Europe.

PORTS IN THE ECONOMY OF POLAND

Pre-war Poland in 1920 found herself in the tragic situation; the only port, Gdańsk, was not in her hands. The construction and immense development of Gdynia were a logical outcome of the fact that Poland was at this time placed in the Vistula river-basin and all her greater industrial centres were located within direct reach of this river, their natural ports being Gdańsk and Gdynia, at the estuary of the Vistula.

The new Polish frontiers brought a change of the economical system. At present the main industrial centres are located in the Odra basin. The natural route towards the sea and the world at large now leads along this river and Szczecin. Today the economical system has changed its pattern and the greatest industrial and mining centres are located along the mountains.

The ports of Szczecin, Gdańsk and Gdynia are supplying Poland with foreign wares and through these ports her export will be directed. Szczecin might become the port for mass-products — coal and ore. In 1913 the exchange of goods in the Szczecin port amounted to 6.296.000 tons, in 1937 — to 8.331.000 tons. In 1947, Poland shall be in a position to export 28 million tons of coal. One half of this export — 14 million tons — will probably be directed on sea routes and of this amount 50% through Szczecin. The coal export only would then equal the pre-war German figures for the exchange of this port, not taking into consideration the import of ore and other raw materials, the export of the Lower Silesia district and the provinces of Poznań and Pomeranie.

In 1938 the turnover figures for Gdańsk and Gdynia amounted to 17 million tons. In 1946 — to 10 million tons. In 1949 — after the three year plan shall have been carried out, when ports and the industry will be rebuilt, these figures will exceed pre-war statistics. Ports of the Vistula estuary shall take over the task of serving the central Polish industrial centres — Łódź and Warsaw having a rather minor importance.

Polish ports will also be the destination of transit traffic. Comfortable communication possibilities with the Danube basin and primarily with Czechoslovakia in some way are forcing upon Poland the duty to act as intermediary between her southern neighbours and the world. This task has been taken into consideration in the three year plan. Polish have to work for the reconstruction and the welfare of the whole of Europe.

PORTS IN THE ECONOMY OF POLAND

BAŁTYK

GDAŃSK 



SZCZECIN

POZNAŃ

WARSZAWA

ŁÓDŹ

WROCŁAW

LUBLIN



ŚLĄSK 

TRENDS OF POLISH COMMUNICATION AND TRANSPORT IN 1946

P O R T S A N D T H E C O A S T

When in May, 1945, we received our coast it appeared that years must pass before we should succeed in making it usable. The main ports — Gdańsk, Gdynia, Szczecin, Kołobrzeg were stubbornly defended during a long period by the German army and — according to a personal order of Hitler, what was not destroyed by normal hostilities — had to be destroyed, burned out or blown up. Conscious of the fact that they never would return to this soil, the Germans intended to leave us a desert. And indeed, they did leave ruins and ashes.

Poland took on the task of reconstruction, as it was one of the most urgent and most important demands. Ports were the link with the world from where we could receive help and supplies so indispensable to us. Through our ports we had to export coal needed badly by devastated Europe. During 1945 Gdynia and Gdańsk exported an average of 100.000 tons of coal monthly. Out of 214 km long coast line of Gdańsk and the 11,5 km line of Gdynia in July, 1945, was put in working order 3,8 km in Gdańsk and 3,5 km in Gdynia. At present the figures are 5,6 and 6,3 kms.

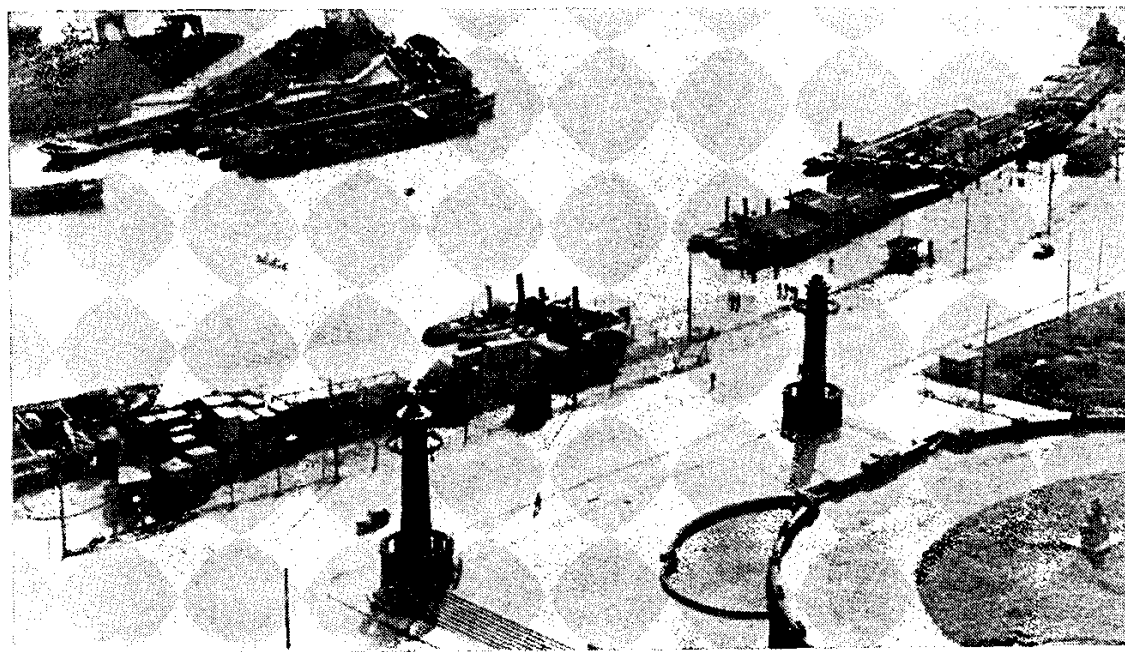
From a total of 179 cranes used in 1939 in both the above ports, in February, 1945 none was in working state. In January 1946 already 40 were working, in July — 49. Another 20 cranes are being refitted and 45 have been ordered in Silesia.

The above figures are a proof of our work and strain at the rebuilding task. It should also be emphasized that our industry was in a similar devastated state as our ports.

Simultaneously with the reconstruction of ports the increase of the transshipping took place. In comparison with the 1945 monthly rate of 100.000 tons already in January, 1946, 300.000 tons were transshipped, in March — 500.000 tons, in June — 837.700 tons, and in October — 900.000 tons. At present the yearly average rate amounts to approx. 9 million tons in comparison with 17 million tons in 1939. Taking into consideration the size and range of destruction we achieved considerably more than could have been expected.

Destruction in Szczecin port was even greater than that of the Vistula estuary. Out from the 20 km long wharves, only the stone parts were in a usable state, but none of the loading facilities. All the 123 cranes were either damaged or destroyed. Out of the 121.800 sq. m. of store-surface one half was completely destroyed and all the inner arrangements of the remaining part. Until now 17,2 km of the wharves with 27 cranes and 24.326 sq. m. stores has been taken over by Polish authorities.

P O R T S A N D T H E C O A S T



The remaining Polish ports Elbląg, Puck, Hel, Łeba, Postomin, Ustka and Kołobrzeg — are mainly fishing harbours and have a rather local importance, They too suffered great damage and destruction, particularly Kołobrzeg. Their rebuilding is carried out in parallel with the reorganisation of open-sea fishing.

T H E C U L T U R E — O F F E N S I V E

The populating and managing of the Recovered Territories became the main problem of Polish economy during the last two years. Parallel to social and economic processes was arising another process; that of uniting the cultural sector of the Odra district with the mother-land. On these territories the population was of various social groups, various traditions, customs and living standards. There were repatriants from behind the Bug, settlers from overpopulated central districts of Poland and the local Polish population which succeeded in holding on in spite of German oppression; finally, there were Poles who during the war spread all over the world.

In this way on the Recovered Territories a new community came into existence, elements there of being backed by the still remaining traces of the former Polish life and forming the new face of these territories.

A great part in this change is being allotted to schools. Below are figures which illustrate the present achievements of the educational branch on the Recovered Territories.

A. Elementary and other schools.

1. Homes for children	139	8,244 children	463 tutors
2. Preparatory schools	1521	58,351 children	1,726 tutors
3. Elementary schools	4592	548,169 pupils	12,192 teachers
4. High schools	210	35,400 pupils	1,467 teachers
5. Professional high schools	165	18,113 pupils	695 teachers
6. Evening schools	1,549	49,431 pupils	

B. Universities.

1. University and Politechnical Academy in Wrocław . . .	7,000 students
2. Politechnical Academy in Gdańsk	2,300 students
3. Medical Academy in Gdańsk	700 students
4. Politechnical Academy in Gliwice	3,000 students
5. Trade-Academy in Szczecin	2,000 students
6. Engineering Academy — in organisation state	
7. Law and Administration — College in Olsztyn	
8. Space-Architecture — College in Wrocław.	

At the end of 1945 in the Recovered Territories 32 newspapers and other periodicals were being issued. Four broadcasting-stations were set in action, 10 theatres, 86 cinemas, 612 choirs and 65 folks-bands.

T H E C U L T U R E — O F F E N S I V E

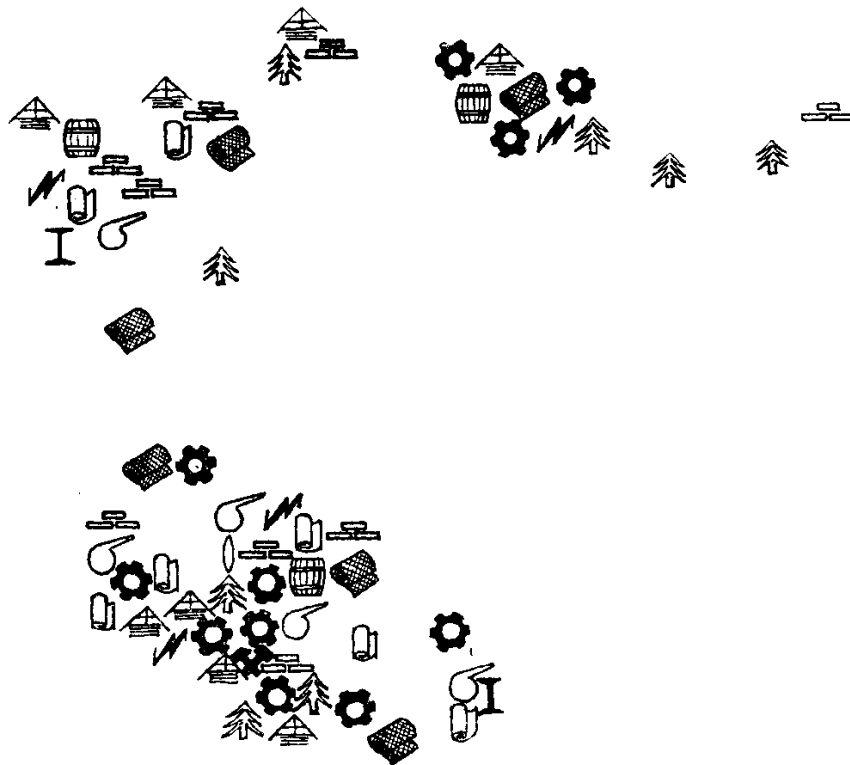
1 · X · 1945	30 · VI · 1946	1 · X · 1946	
<p>23 393 771 536</p>	<p>23506 1411 990</p>	<p>52 351 1726 1851</p>	KINDERGARTEN SCHOOLS
<p>23 400 5851 2376</p>	<p>419 729 9773 4005</p>	<p>548 360 12 192 4592</p>	PRIMARY SCHOOLS
<p>10 446 759 145</p>	<p>26 100 1162 162</p>	<p>35 100 1467 210</p>	GRAMMAR SCHOOLS
<p>4 332 247 61</p>	<p>7 550 374 108</p>	<p>18 075 695 165</p>	PROFESSIONAL SCHOOLS













T H E R E C O V E R E D T E R R I T O R I E S

A characteristic feature of the geo-economical structure of pre-war Germany was an obvious contrast between the agricultural and general economic level between the central German territories and those beyond the line of the rivers Odra and Nissa. Territories due east of those rivers were inferior in each branch of their economical life to the central and western parts of the Reich, in spite of the fact that they had equally favourable natural possibilities. This state of things was the consequence of the unfavourable location of the Recovered Territories within the frame of the German geographical and economical organism. This handicap was the cause of another phenomenon: any attempt at selling products of these areas on markets other than local was as futile as unprofitable because those territories were, so to speak, peripheral of central markets and were deprived of appropriate and adequate communication lines. The German population was being supplied by the close lying productive agricultural and other centres of Brandenburg and Saxony. Therefore, being cut off from expansion possibilities towards the West and at the same time checked by tax-barriers in the East and separated from the natural communication lines in the river-basins of the Vistula and Warta, the Recovered Territories found themselves in a state of isolation which must have had a paralysing effect upon their economical development. This was the reason why they could not develop fully all their possibilities and if they did not submerge in a state of complete destitution it was only due to the fact that there existed an exceptional, purely political reason, for intervention of the central German authorities; this expressed itself in some economical privileges and in an exceptional financial assistance, although the latter constituted a deficit in the German balance.

At present, being a part of Poland, these territories have been given a chance of full and normal development which never before existed. This will grant them the assurance of full and free expansion to our markets and at the same time enable them to become not — as it was before — the Cinderella, but one of the main factors in our economical life; this is the rôle the Recovered Territories have to play in the future industrial-agricultural Poland. For the first time in centuries the economical interest and concern of those provinces will be the same as that of the whole state and therefore, the whole of Europe shall receive in the Recovered Territories a new and never before fully exploited economical factor.

THE RECOVERED TERRITORIES



- | | | | |
|---|----------------------|---|------------------|
|  | FOOD-STUFFS INDUSTRY |  | CLIMATIC CENTRES |
|  | TEXTIL INDUSTRY |  | OPTICAL |
|  | METALLURGY |  | COAL INDUSTRY |
|  | CHEMICAL INDUSTRY |  | METAL INDUSTRY |
|  | POWER PRODUCTION |  | TIMBER INDUSTRY |
|  | BUILDING INDUSTRY |  | RESORTS |

THE 3-YEARS ECONOMIC PLAN

The first stage of feverish work on setting in working order the less or partially destroyed industrial establishments in the Recovered Territories is already coming to an end.

The Polish nation decided to include in frame of her political economy the problem of an appropriate linking and exploiting of these territories. An expression of it is the 3-years investment plan.

The aim of this plan is to create a possibility fully linking into one unity the already existing production apparatus of the Recovered Territories, and the apparatus of the rest of Poland. The task of this plan is to start the building up of a new industry in these territories which in the future would become the main instrument of the exploitation of all the natural treasures in which this part of Poland is abundant.

And so the metal-industry, chosen here as example, included as four great groups:

1. The Vistula estuary district (Gdańsk and Elbląg),
2. The Wrocław district,
3. The Szczecin district,
4. The Silesia district of Opole.

In 1939 the factories and works of the Recovered Territories employed a total of 65.000 workers of which 45.000 were in large and medium establishments. As a comparison it should be emphasized that the pre-war metal-industry of Warsaw employed 25.000 workers, i. e. approx. one half of the above figure for the Recovered Territories.

The industrial Gdańsk district ceased almost completely to exist. Both districts of Wrocław and Szczecin suffered considerable losses. Almost complete destruction was inflicted on the Warsaw metal-industry which at present is giving employment to 3.000 workers — i. e. 12% of the pre-war figures.

At the cost of over half a billion of Zlotys approx. 70 establishments have been rebuilt in the Recovered Territories, this includes two rolling-stock plants in Wrocław and Zielona Góra.

Production-value increased from 1 million in December, 1945, to 9 million in August, 1946, which is nearly 30% of the total Polish production. Employment amounts to over 17.000 workers. But all this is still not compensating the losses suffered by the Polish metal-industry in Warsaw alone.

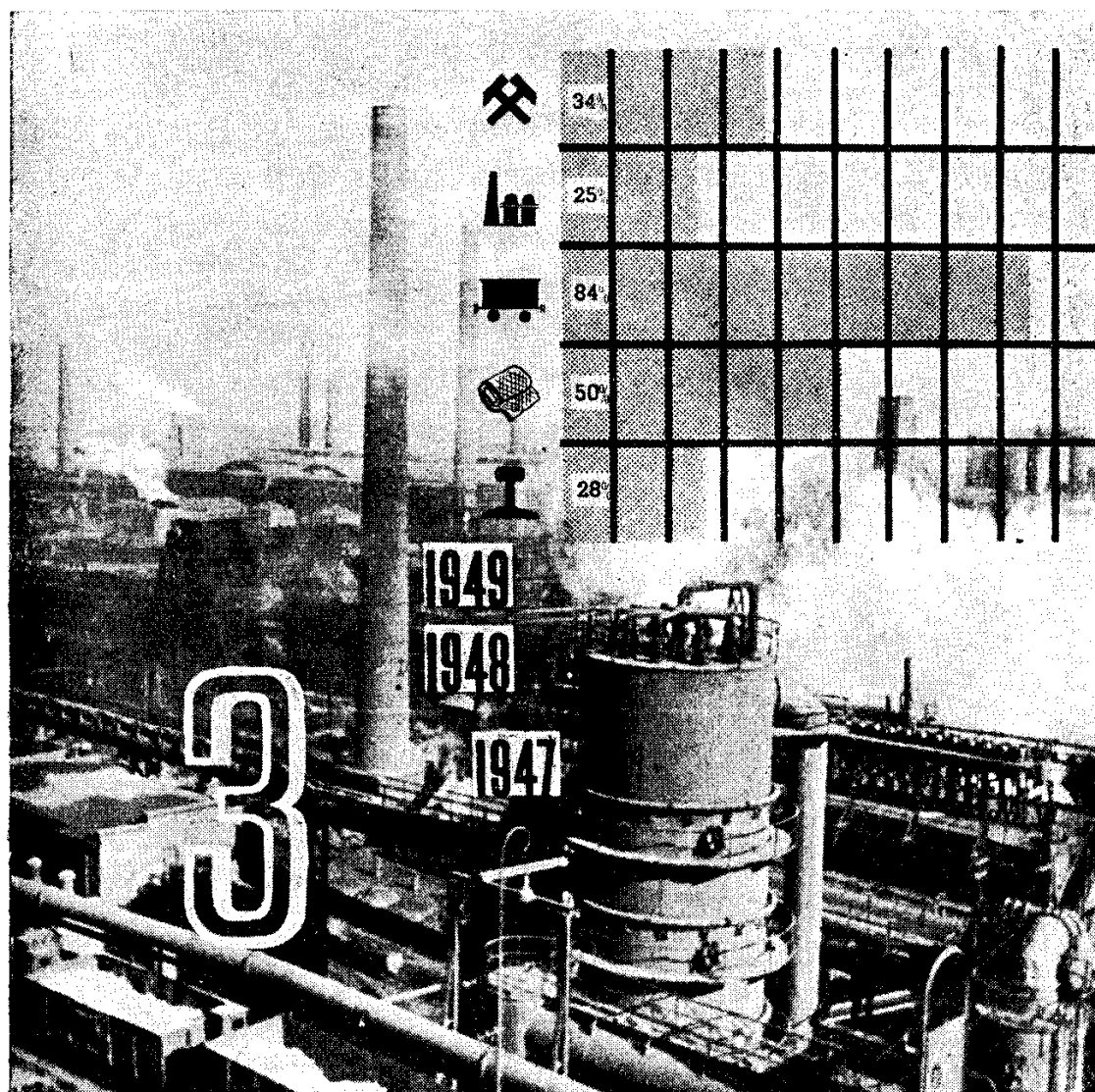
The investment plan is allotting for the purpose of restoring the metal-industry a total of 1,5 billion Zlotys for the Recovered Territories, i. e. 28% of total home expenses. This investment should increase the value of our production to 27 million Zlotys (pre-war value) equaling 28% of the entire home production and 50% of the Polish pre-war production.

Employment figures in the metal-industry should at the same time increase to 45.000 people.

Increase of employment for all establishments managed by the Ministry of Industry should amount to:

	in 1946	in 1949
	216.000 Poles	312.000 Poles
	18.000 Germans	6.000 Germans.

THE 3-YEARS ECONOMIC PLAN



The percentage share of some of the branches of the industry in the Recovered Territories in the Polish industry for the year 1949 is expected to amount to:

coal production	34%
smelting-works	25%
railway-carriages production	84%
building materials	48%
cotton wool mat.	50%
metal-industry	28%

The total share in the Polish production as a whole will amount to 28% in 1949 for the Recovered Territories.

W R O C Ł A W

During the last stage of the war Wrocław suffered great devastation. In course of the 80 days siege 10.000 hectares of the town territory was almost completely destroyed and the remaining 7.000 hectares suffered severe devastation.

Approximately 77% of buildings were destroyed. Some of the town quarters were 70% destroyed.

The industry, of which Wrocław was a great centre, was over 60% destroyed.

Public utility buildings, the town communications and monuments of ancient architecture were either destroyed or severely damaged.

In spite of such losses and destruction Wrocław is today inhabited by 186.535 people which amounts to 35% of the pre-war population of this town. This population consists of:

166.629 Poles
and 19.907 Germans.

In the 70 existing industrial establishments of Wrocław 22.000 persons are employed.

The National Rolling Stock Works in Wrocław are employing 4.050 Polish workers. In January, 1947, the works had an output of 390 railway-lorries. At the same time they started the production of tenders, locomotives and passenger-carriages.

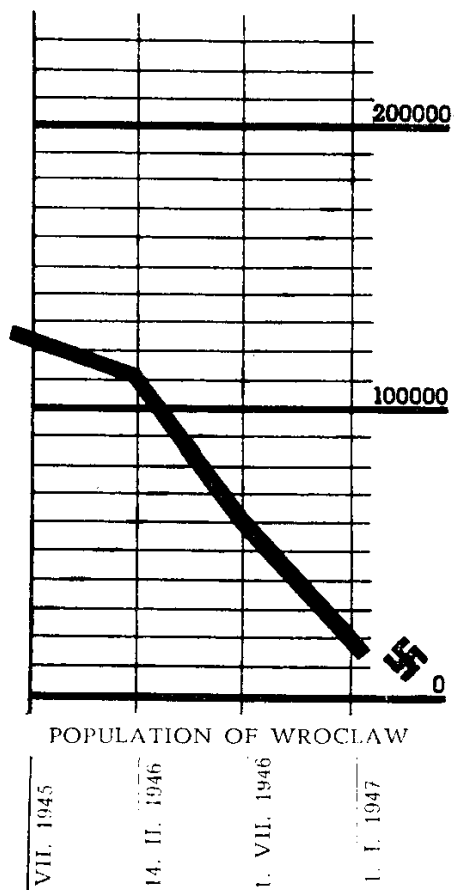
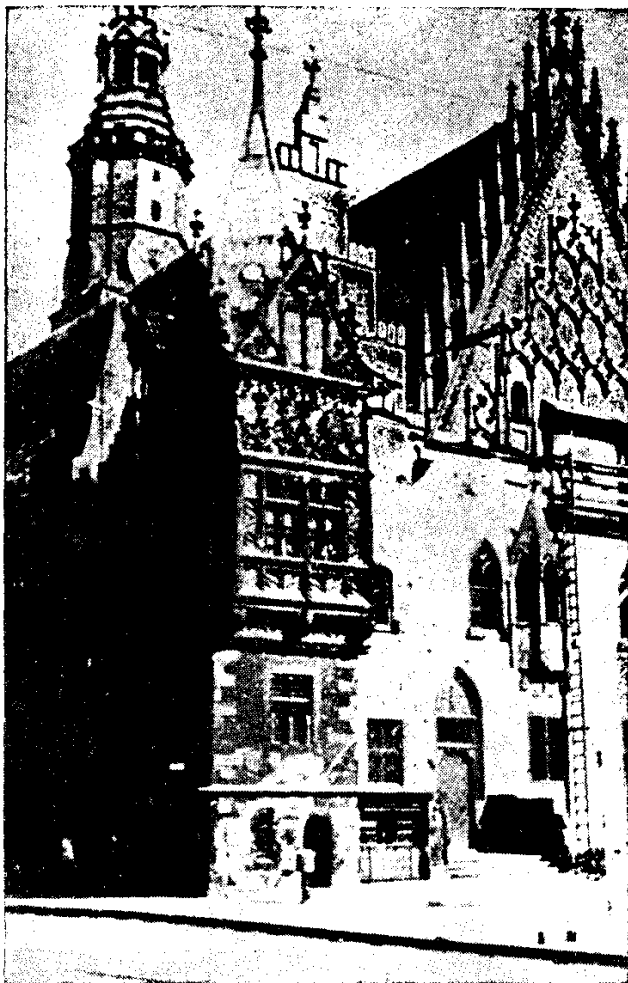
Beside the above works of greater industrial objects Wrocław has: Water-meter Works and a factory of artificial silk; these establishments employ a total of 2.000 workers each.

It was extremely important to organise in a town as much destroyed, as Wrocław, an appropriate welfare and health service. Therefore, Wrocław already at present has 12 hospitals with a total of 2.500 beds and a University clinic with 300 beds. At the first stage all the hospitals were managed by the municipal authorities. At present, a considerable number is under the administration of congregations.

Thanks to the existence of a Municipal Hygiene Institute which recently was taken over by the Government and at present is carrying on bacteriological researches and the control of supplies and wells, the town is not threatened with the danger of an epidemic.

In frame of the three year plan all traces of destruction should be removed as they particularly are making the life of the population most difficult. A planned reconstruction of the industrial and dwelling districts of the town will restore to Wrocław its meaning as the capital of Silesia.

W R O C L A W



S T E T T I N (S Z C Z E C I N)

The population of Stettin amounted in 1939 to 268.000 inhabitants. During the hostilities the town suffered great damage, caused mainly by two big allied air-raids in 1944. The German forces during their retreat inflicted further planned damage in 1945.

On 5-th Aug., 1945, the Soviet authorities handed over the town to Poland. At this time the figures for Stettin were as follows:

Population	Poles	Germans
84.600	600	84.000

On 1-st Dec., 1946, the population of the town increased to 89.000. On 1-st July, 1946 the figures amounted already to 101.668 inhabitants, and on 1-st Jan., 1947, they reached a total of 125.997 inhabitants.

At the same time the figures of the Polish and German population of Stettin changed as follows:

	Poles	Germans
1 Dec. 1945	29.000	60.000
1 July 1946	84.926	16.742
1 Jan. 1947	112.221	13.776

Simultaneously with the increase of the population the setting in working order of the industry and the rebuilding of destroyed cities and towns was carried out.

A number of houses (living quarters) were rebuilt. Buildings of mediaeval art were secured or in some cases rebuilt, e. g. the old town hall, the ancient castle of the dukes of Stettin (Piast dynasty), old churches, ect., etc.

A number of industrial enterprises were set in working order, in the first place the sugar plant in Gumieniec (a suburb of Stettin). The rebuilding of the smelting works of Huta Stolczyn are still being carried out and the same applies to the industrial objects in the harbour area.

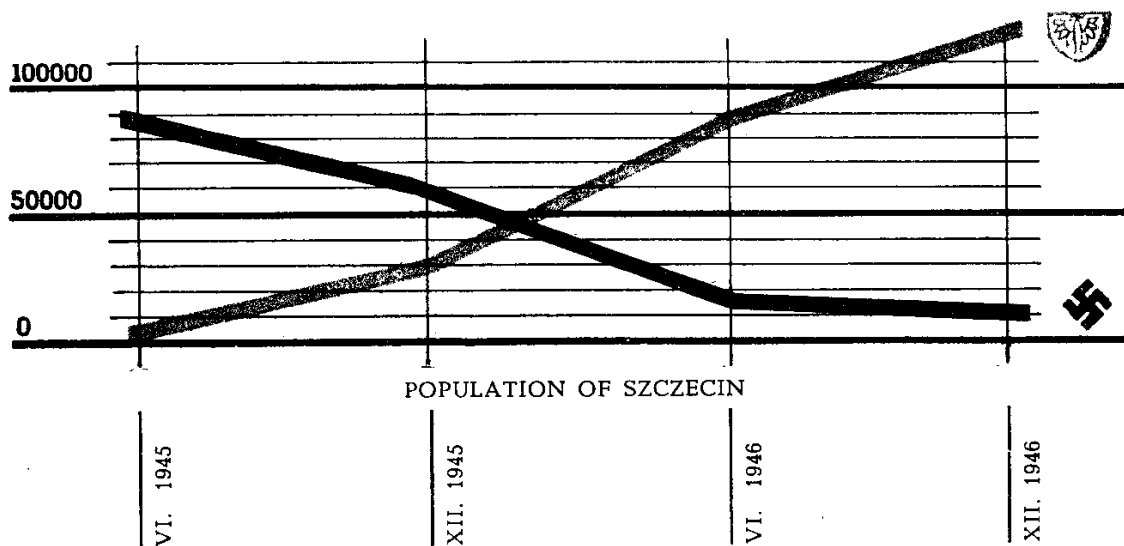
The harbour stores were destroyed 50%, unloading and reloading arrangements 100%. The value of harbour facilities on 1-st Sept., 1939, amounted to 200 million pre-war Zlotys.

The damage of harbour arrangements was on 1-st Sept., 1939, valued to an amount of 80 million pre-war Zlotys.

In Jan., 1947, a final taking over by Polish authorities of the Stettin harbour was taking place. Stores of oil-products are already put in action with a surface amounting to 7.400 m³; further 30.000 m³ are being rebuilt.

The three years reconstruction plan includes 3 milliards Zlotys for the rebuilding of the Stettin harbour.

S T E T T I N (S Z C Z E C I N)



P O T S D A M

The western and northern frontiers of Poland were settled during the Potsdam Conference of the Big Three and taking in consideration the opinion of the Polish Government. The relative extract is as follows;

„The three heads of the respective Governments are agreeing that before a final settlement of the Western frontiers of Poland shall take place, former German territories East of the line running from the Baltic Sea directly Westwards from Swinoujście and from here along the river Odra till the spot where she joins the western Nissa and along the western Nissa to the Czechoslovakian frontier and together with this part of East Prussia which is not included under the administration of the U. S. R. R., according to the arrangement achieved during the above Conference, and including the Free City of Gdańsk shall remain under the administration of Poland and therefore, should not be considered a part of the Soviet occupation zone of Germany“.

An equally important part of the Potsdam agreement concerning the exile of Germans states:

„The Conference achieved the following understanding concerning the exile of Germans from Poland, Czechoslovakia and Hungary:

The Three Governments after considering all points of view are expressing their approbation that it is necessary to undertake a resettlement **to Germany** of the German population or the **elements there of remaining in Poland**, Czechoslovakia and Hungary. They agree upon it that this resettlement should be carried out in an orderly and human way. As a great rush into Germany would increase the burden of the occupation authorities, it is considered that the Allied Control Commission in Germany should primarily investigate this question, taking in view in the first place a just distribution of these Germans amongst the various occupation zones. In accordance with the above they advise their representatives at the Control Commission to despatch to their Governments **as soon as possible** statements of the extent of such persons from Poland and Czechoslovakia and Hungary returning to Germany and to definite approximately the time and speed at which the further resettlement could be carried out taking in consideration the present situation in Germany.“

On this ground and after an acceptance of the resettlement plan of the German population by the Allied Control Commission in Germany the Polish Government in a human and organised way carried out the repatriation of Germans from Poland.

P O T S D A M



The decisions of the Potsdam Conference permitted Poland to settle on these territories the Polish population evacuated from the lost territories due east from the Curzon line.

Taking in consideration the above international understanding, Poland is looking upon the whole of her territories as one unit, defined by frontiers settled by resolutions of the Three Allied Powers, and in the firm belief that the adjudication of „a vast territorial increase in the North and in the West“ is an already accomplished fact, beyond discussion, and only a final delimitation of the frontiers affords a formal sanction at the Peace Conference.

C O N T E N T S

1. Reconstruction of Europe	4
2. Churchill — Roosevelt — Stalin	6
3. The Year 1000 — Slavs	8
4. History of the Polish Western Borders	10
5. „Drang nach Osten”	12
6. Tracks of the German Invasions	14
7. German Bases of Advance	16
8. Poland Suffered Great Losses	18
9. The Front Stabilised on the Odra	20
10. Concentration Camps and the Front Break-down of Losses	22
11. War Destruction of the Recovered Territories	24
12. The Germans Did Not Want to Settle In the East	26
13. Poland—Germany Population Structure	28
14. A Million Survived	30
15. 4,5 Million Poles	32
16. The Recovered Territories Free of Germans	34
17. Towns Are Already Polish	36
18. Repatriation and Settling	38
19. Life Is Stronger than Devastation	40
20. Indispensable for Poland — Superfluous for Germany	42
21. The Recovered Territories Were Not Germany's Granary	44
22. Production Is Increasing	46
23. Coal for Europe	48
24. 3.200.000 Hectares Cultivated	50
25. The River Odra	52
26. Ports In the Economy of Poland	54
27. Ports and the Coasts	56
28. The Culture-offensive	58
29. The Recovered Territories	60
30. The 3-years Economic Plan	62
31. Wrocław , , ,	64
32. Stettin (Szczecin)	66
33. Potsdam , , ,	68