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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

50X1-HUM

COUNTRY Poland

SUBJECT Conditions in Namyslow/Successful Local Collectivization Drive

REPORT



DATE DISTR. 25 Jun 1953

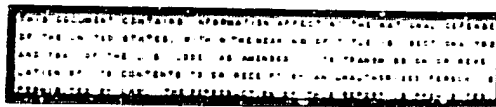
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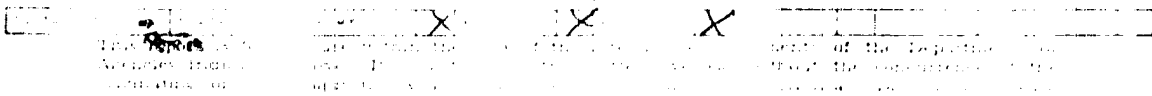
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1. "The small town of Namyslow (Namalau) southeast of Wroclaw (Breslau) is a dead town, like many in Western Poland. During World War II it suffered heavy damage. Nothing has been repaired or rebuilt during the past seven years. Yet Namyslow is a district capital and lies along a main highway connecting Wroclaw with Krakow. The following comments date through February 1953.
2. "One of Namyslow's best buildings, located between the market place and the historical Krakowska Brama (Cracovian Gate), was taken over by the UB. It houses UB offices and serves also as a transit prison.
3. "Until recently no military units were stationed in the town. Towards the end of 1952 the pre-World War II home for crippled people was requisitioned by the military authorities who converted it into an Army hospital. It is located outside of the town, close to the Wroclaw highway.
4. "The only two substantial employment possibilities in Namyslow are the local slaughterhouse and the brewery. Without these two establishments the town would be literally dead.
5. "The one exotic element in Namyslow is a group of Gypsies, who, in accordance with existing regulations, have been forced to settle down at a permanent residence. Immediately after the end of World War II they developed a rather lucrative black market in Namyslow and the vicinity. Business opportunities later deteriorated, and now many of the Gypsies are forced to work at State enterprises. On the sabbath where these Gypsies live one can see their women in traditional costumes, often dancing and singing.
6. "As a result of the extensive collectivization drive, the farm areas surrounding Namyslow are today mostly PGRs (State farms) and kolchozes. Pursuant to a regulation issued 3 January 1953, kolchoz members are allowed to sell their

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home-grown products at the public market along with the remaining private farmers (who must first fulfill their delivery quotas). Nevertheless, trade at the market is almost completely dead.

7. "When this regulation was published many farmers from surrounding villages asked local lawyers whether they could indeed go out to the market and sell, even if they carried all the papers certifying their deliveries had been made. The general consensus was that it might be quite risky. Most farmers continue to sell their surplus through their old private channels.
8. "The all-out collectivization drive became somewhat more successful in 1959 when new kolkhoz admission regulations were issued. An individual farmer who signs an application for kolkhoz membership now has the right to keep his remaining crop without fulfilling his delivery quotas for that year and is permitted to sell his cattle for his personal profit before entering the kolkhoz. Most of his unpaid taxes are either fully voided or at least largely reduced.
9. "Under these regulations many individual farmers are now joining kolkhozes in the Masyelov region. For many of them it is the only way to avoid bankruptcy, which would result in the confiscation of all their property. In addition, it is their first opportunity to accumulate some savings after having lived for many years with practically no cash on hand.
10. "New kolkhozes are being set up in the following places in the Masyelov area:

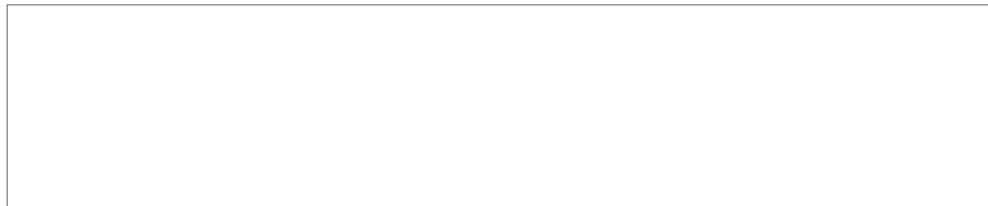
Domaszowice	(Koldoba)
Siemyslaw	(Steinmardorf)
Grebosow	(Grabschusts)
Strzelce	(Strahlitz)

11. "The State farms (PGRs) around Masyelov are located at:

Mala I Wielka Wierzbica	(Klein & Gross-Deutschen)
Bukowa Blaska	(Buchelsdorf)
Switno	(Klein-Lorenzendorf)

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