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COMMUNIST PURGE BEGUN IN POLAND;
NEW PARTY OFFICIALS NAMED

MINC IN DISFAVOR -- Svenska Dagbladet, No 129, 15 May 50

Vienna, 14 May -- There are many indications that the power of Hilary Minc, the most talented and independent of the Polish Communists and heretofore dictator of the Polish economy, has come to an end. This trained national economist, who even before the war, as an expert in the field of industrial statistics, held an important national post under the administration then in power, is certainly an orthodox Marxist. But at the beginning of 1949, when the Committee for Economic Mutual Assistance began to coordinate the production plans of the associated countries into a common plan, Minc became involved in a controversy with Moscow. He had slowed down the tempo of the socialization of agriculture; he also wanted the trade unions to retain certain functions which, in the eyes of his critics, should be taken over by the state. In the matter of the distribution of work between the Polish and Soviet economies, he energetically defended Poland's interests on several occasions, e.g., he succeeded in effecting the return to Poland of a factory the Russians had dismantled.

He weathered the crisis that time, having gone to Moscow himself, and publicly gave his support to the Soviet directive on the introduction of the kolkhoz system into Polish agriculture. He then rose to the post of first deputy premier, but in his capacity as leader of the State Planning Commission he was assigned two other Communist political economists to watch him.

For some curious reason, the development of the state production plan was delayed. When it was made public for the first time, it was not Minc who announced it, but one of the two other leaders of the Planning Commission, Minister Jendrychowski, who, since he went over from the Catholic youth movement to the Communist camp, has been distinguished for his fanaticism.

Since the beginning of May, Minc has no longer been first deputy premier. The former trade union leader, Alexander Zawadzki, who, together with State Secretary Berman, is a regular representative of Poland at all Cominform conferences, has been named to that post.

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Very little mention has been made of Minc for quite a long time, but this is explained officially on the grounds of Minc's state of health; Minc is only 46 years old. However, there is much to indicate that Minc's undogmatic interpretation of Marxist ideas and the independent economy he favors for Poland have decidedly cooled Moscow's feelings toward him.

3 NEW POLISH POLITBURO SECRETARIES NAMED -- Svenska Dagbladet, No 127, 13 May 50

In a 12 May communique, it was announced that the number of secretaries in the Politburo has been increased from three to six. The new secretaries are: Franciszek Mazur, who last month was one of the members of the government signing the new agreement between the church and the state; Brig Gen Edward Ochab, Vice-Minister of National Defense; and Zenon Nowak, an old Communist about whom very little is known.

Early on 12 May it was considered by diplomatic circles in Warsaw that these changes in the leadership of the Politburo are the signal for changes in the composition of the Polish government.

REPORT GOMULKA'S ARREST -- Ostatnie Wiadomosci, No 37, 2 Apr 50

On 28 March 1950, Dziennik Polski in London published an unconfirmed report stating that former Vice-Premier Gomulka and Spychalski have been under arrest for some time.

The Communist Party is interested in staging demonstration trials to serve specific tactical purposes. Some of these trials take place shortly after the arrest of the defendants. Such was the case of the Frenchman Robineau. In most cases, however, the accused wait for many months -- sometimes as long as 2 years -- before the Communist Party finds the time ripe for the trial.

An analysis of the charges against those now held in jail indicates that all demonstration trials may be divided into three principal categories: (1) trials intended to denounce and attack the church, (2) trials against nationalist deviationists, usually linked with charges of espionage, and (3) trials against political opponents of the present regime and men linked with past Polish governments and political parties.

The suit of Father Kaczynski and Tygodnik Warszawski, a Catholic weekly, is meant to hit the Catholic Church. The Polish Police closed down the weekly at the end of August 1948. Studentowicz, the weekly's editor, was arrested while trying to escape abroad. Father Kaczynski and the two Kwasiemborski brothers were also arrested.

The news of the arrests of Gomulka and General Spychalski may be regarded as highly probable. Even if the police have not yet thrown them in jail, their arrest is simply a matter of time. The charges made at the plenary session of the Communist Party in November 1949 indicate that court proceedings against them are almost certain.

However, other high government officials will be tried first because their testimony will gravely incriminate both Gomulka and Spychalski. These officials are: Woldzimir Lechowicz, Minister of Food, arrested in October 1948, and charged with spying on government and Party members; Jaroszewicz, Vice-Minister of Food; and Jozef Dubiel, Vice-Minister for Recovered Territories, believed to be a Gomulka protege. The latter is also accused of having been a Gestapo agent.

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Stanislaw Kowalewski, former Vice-Minister of Agriculture, Ryszard Borowy, former Vice-Minister of Forestry, and Tadeusz Kochanowicz, Vice-Minister of Social Security, have been in jail without trial since fall 1949.

Trials against former leaders of the PSL (Polish Peasant Party) come in the third category. Bryja and Mrs Hulewicz have been awaiting trial since October 1947. They were seized while attempting to cross the border at the time of Mikolajczyk's escape. P. Siudak, another of Mikolajczyk's collaborators, is also in prison. Franciszek Wojcicki, a PSL leader, was arrested in January 1949 while trying to escape across the border. His two companions, Banczyk and Wojcik, succeeded in crossing the border. Another imprisoned PSL leader is Kulerski.

In February 1949, there were mass arrests of former members of the Home Army (AK), particularly of those who once belonged to the famous Zoska and Parasol formations. Col Jan Mazurkiewica (Radoslaw) had been arrested and charged with subversive activities, and with plotting the assassination of Bierut and Cyrankiewica.

It has been rumored in Warsaw that Col J. Rzepecki will also be brought to trial. The latter was convicted in January 1947, but was later pardoned by Bierut. Reports of his arrest began to circulate in January 1949.

Colonel Utnik, well known in Polish circles in London, is in jail. His name was frequently mentioned during the Doboszynski trial in July 1949. Last fall, Colonel Utnik, an attache of the Polish Embassy in London, returned to Poland, where he was arrested.

FORMER POLISH CONSUL REQUESTS ASYLUM IN SWEDEN -- Svenska Dagbladet, No 92, 5 Apr 50

The former Polish consul in Göteborg, Marian Börtzel-Szuch, who was recalled in connection with the closing of the consulate in Göteborg on 28 February, has decided not to return. He intends to seek the right of asylum in Sweden.

IZYDORCZYK NAMED AMBASSADOR TO GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC -- Wola Ludu, No 31, 31 Jan 50

Jan Izydorczyk has been appointed chief of the Diplomatic Mission of the Republic of Poland to the German Democratic Republic to replace Karol Tkocz, who was obliged to refuse the appointment on account of ill health.

Jan Izydorczyk was born in 1900. His father was a farm laborer. In his early youth, Izydorczyk also worked as a farm laborer and later as a metalworker. In 1919, he was active in the KPP (Polish Communist Party) and in 1930 was chosen to the Central Committee of the KPP. He was often imprisoned by the Sanacja governments.

Izydorczyk spent the entire period of the occupation in concentration camps: Oswiecim, Brzezinka, and Buchenwald, where he promoted political activity. He became secretary of the PPR (Polish Workers' Party) in Buchenwald.

Since the liberation, he has held high positions in the Party and the State Administration. His most recent position was Vice-Minister of Public Administration. He is a member of the Central Committee, Polish United Workers Party and a delegate to the Legislative Sejm.

Izydorczyk was decorated with the Grunwald Cross, III Class, for his services in the reconstruction of Poland, and has received other high citations.

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GERMANS TO BE EXPELLED FROM POLAND -- Polak, No 10, 9 Mar 50

The Warsaw regime has decided to expel the rest of the Germans from Poland. The first transports are composed of the sick and those unable to work.

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