

**INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT**

**CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY**

This material contains information affecting the National Defense of the United States within the meaning of the Espionage Laws, Title 18, U.S.C. Secs. 793 and 794, the transmission or revelation of which in any manner to an unauthorized person is prohibited by law

50X1-HUM  
50X1-HUM  
50X1-HUM

S-E-C R-E-T

<b>COUNTRY</b>	Poland	<b>REPORT</b>	
<b>SUBJECT</b>	Speech by Ryszard Strzelecki at the Office of the Polish Prosecutor-General	<b>DATE DISTR.</b>	16 MAR 1964
<b>DATE OF INFO.</b>		<b>NO. PAGES</b>	1
<b>PLACE &amp; DATE ACQ.</b>		<b>REFERENCES</b>	

50X1-HUM

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION. SOURCE GRADINGS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

[redacted] a translation of the Polish original of a speech made by Ryszard Strzelecki, Secretary of the Central Committee of the Polish United Worker's Party (PZPR) at the Office of the Prosecutor-General in May 1963. 50X1-HUM

Distribution of Attachment [redacted] 50X1-HUM  
OCI : Retention  
STATE : Retention  
ORR : Retention

[redacted]

S-E-C-R-E-T

50X1-HUM 5  
4  
3  
2  
1

STATE	DIA	ARMY	NAVY	AIR	NSA	DDIC	50X1-HUM
-------	-----	------	------	-----	-----	------	----------

(Note: Field distribution indicated by "#".)

**INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT**

50X1-HUM



50X1-HUM

Speech by Ryszard Strzelecki in the Office of the  
Prosecutor-General, May 1963

To strengthen and develop the offensive  
for the consolidation of the Socialist legal order

I should like to take advantage of today's meeting to tackle a number of essential matters which you encounter every day in your difficult work, and which merit particular attention. Comrade KOSZTIRKO, in his introductory speech, and our Comrades the Public Prosecutors who have so far taken part in the discussion, have dealt with almost the whole field of activity of the Public Prosecutor's Office. \*

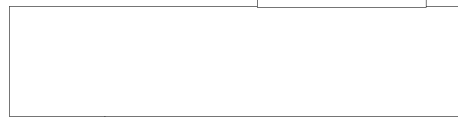
2. I do not propose to adopt an attitude to what has been said here, since the discussion has only just begun. Instead, I would like to draw attention to the fact that the speeches made so far have been of a high standard, presenting the problems correctly, dealing with the most important questions which deserve the greatest attention and call for the concentration of our energies, strength and resources in order to combat the types of crime which are the most grievous, and against which we must conduct the most decisive and effective struggle.

3. The combating and prevention of crime, closely linked with the reinforcement of the rule of law and of public law and order, have always been and continue to be at the centre of our Party's attention. The Third Congress of our Party attached much attention to these very matters, setting concrete tasks in the sphere of strengthening the rule of law and social discipline, in particular as regards the increased protection of communal

[redacted] property. In accordance with the directives of the Congress [redacted] the Party courts have devoted, and are devoting, much attention to the appraisal of measures undertaken in this sphere. An example of this was the assessment of penal policy which was made in September 1961 and the formulation in it of recommendations contained in the resolution of the Secretariat of the Central Committee of the PZPR. This assessment was completed after many months of Party discussion in the

/Party

\* A speech made at a conference at the Public Prosecutor's office on 19th May [redacted] 50X1-HUM



SECRET

GROUP 1  
Excluded from automatic  
downgrading and  
declassification

- 2 -

Party courts and in wide Party and non-Party circles in offices responsible for the administration of justice.

4. The correct policy of the Party created conditions for the effective combating of crime. The basic factors which influence the development and strengthening of this tendency, this direction, are the stabilisation of socialist social relations and economic and cultural development in our country. An essential role is also played by the fact that, together with the foundation of democratic principles in our social and political life, there has been a constant strengthening of the basic legal-institutional guarantees of the socialist rule of law, such as the independence of the judiciary; [redacted] procuratorial supervision; which ensures the exact and uniform observance of the law etc. Amendments have also been made to penal, material and litigatory legislation with the aim of better adapting it to social requirements. As regards the organisation of the administration of justice, a law has been passed concerning the Supreme Court which has brought about all the conditions for the proper fulfilment by the Supreme Court of its constitutional functions. In the sphere of the national economy, questions concerning the legal service of enterprises have been settled which, as well as ensuring the high quality of this service, will also help to prevent breaches of the law in our economy.

5. The examples quoted here, chosen by me from among many others, testify to the due implementation of the resolution of the Third Party Congress aiming at the reinforcement of law and order and an intensification of the struggle against crime. Thanks to this, the organs of prosecution and the administration of justice have been given broad opportunities for action. Nevertheless, in order to obtain constantly improving results, an energetic conscious effort is needed which will succeed in making use of these opportunities and transforming them into real achievements. These activities will be carried on by our organs of prosecution and the administration of justice, but it is still necessary to raise them to

50X1-HUM

[redacted] SECRET

/ ever higher

9684  
50X1-HUM

- 3 -

ever higher degrees of efficiency.

6. The Council of State's examination of the reports of the Prosecutor General, the Supreme Court and the Supreme Chamber of Control has made it possible to report that in the last few years there has been a marked step forward in the sphere of combating and counteracting crime. Evidence of this is provided, first and foremost, by the better and more effective combating of major swindling offences in a number of branches of the national economy. It must be said that in this too the machinery of prosecution has been of no little assistance with its great contribution of self-sacrificing work and consistent attitude in the fight against crime.

7. The results which we have achieved in combating thefts of communal property are to a great extent the result of the regular decline of economic offences and the correct concentration of strength and resources on the struggle against swindling offences in specified branches of the economy so that these have been steadily purged of swindling gangs such as existed in the purchase of wool, in the leather and milling industries and other spheres.

8. In this struggle, there arose and evolved a correct method for co-ordinating the functioning of organs of control and of the prosecution and administration of justice. This has been mentioned, among other things, in today's discussions, which have provided an assessment of this phenomenon and have also drawn a number of valid conclusions. It may probably be stated, on the basis of these experiences, that the prosecuting machinery has in principle properly discharged the tasks imposed upon it, that it has organised and co-ordinated correctly the struggle against crime and that everyone concerned must continue to develop and strengthen the methods of co-ordination with the full co-operation of all the organs called upon to combat criminal offences.

9. Can we, however, in pronouncing these words of positive assessment and satisfaction with what we have achieved, and recognition of what you

  
**SECRET**

/have

50X1-HUM

9684

- 4 -

have accomplished so far, rest entirely contented? It seems to me that this would be very premature. Almost all the previous speakers have adopted the same standpoint on this subject.

10. We cannot be entirely satisfied with the sizeable results achieved so far, because we can certainly say that the tempo of bringing into practical existence the organs of prosecution and the administration of justice - as laid down in the resolution of the Secretariat of the Central Committee of the PZPR - and the mastery of new forms and resources has not always - in some individual instances even to a marked degree - corresponded with the requirements of penal policy, with our capabilities, or with the reserves which exist in our organisation [aparatus].

11. The extent of criminal offences, and especially economic offences, is still considerable. The report of the Prosecutor-General to the Council of State gives the figures. One cannot accept the interpretation which has been heard from time to time that the increase in the amount of damage detected does not reflect actual tendencies in the sphere of criminal offences, but must be treated only as a result of the more energetic and more effective activity of our prosecuting machinery. Undoubtedly there is a lot of truth in this and we must not fail to take it into account, for in doing this we should contradict the words spoken here about the improvement in the working of our machinery. But it is also a fact - and I entirely agree here with what previous speakers have said - that the phenomenon of big economic crimes and swindles continues to be a considerable and menacing phenomenon and we have not yet found any excellent way of quickly and effectively smashing it, punishing it and, by doing this successfully, of taking action against the existence and the occurrence of this kind of offence.

12. If the energetic and effective working of our machinery for inspection and prosecution were keeping in step with the increase in the number of swindles brought to light, the effects of this activity would undoubtedly

SECRET

/catch up 50X1-HUM

9684

- 5 -

catch up with swindlers much faster than has hitherto been the case. For, as we all know well, the results of investigation show that in many cases swindlers carried on their activities with impunity for years on end even though attention was repeatedly drawn to them and although individual organs of investigation and even of prosecution were tackling these cases. An example of this is the leather industry, in which a gang flourished for 10 years with impunity all over the country, demoralising our administrative machinery to a marked degree. We also know that in many instances the organs of investigation and prosecution got to the source of this criminal activity but did not have the energy to penetrate to the heart of the matter, to analyse in detail the mechanics of swindling crimes, and bring about much sooner those results which were finally achieved only after 10 years.

13. The efficient and complete disclosure of crimes and the detection of their perpetrators and absolute and ruthless penal suppression are not only ends in themselves. It is important not only to apprehend and severely punish criminals, but also to limit and eradicate crime and to remove the conditions which are conducive to it. Lenin, in his speeches, spoke of the great preventive significance of punishment, indicating that this alone determines the inevitability of punishment. The correct functioning of the organs of prosecution and the administration of justice must, then, establish conditions in which no swindler will be able to plunder for long and his criminal activity will meet with an immediate reaction in the form of ruthless penal suppression. This will also undoubtedly act as a deterrent on demoralised people and will warn them and hinder them from entering upon a path of crime. This is also one of the important factors in prophylactic action.

14. In this action our machinery must show greater effectiveness. We must perfect our methods and means of operation, our initiative must be quicker than the inventiveness of criminal elements. I entirely agree with the pronouncements of Comrades who have spoken here of the precise,

  
**SECRET**

/premeditated

50X1-HUM<sup>0884</sup>

- 6 -

premeditated and complex methods of criminal gangs, which sometimes remind one rather of some staff operation than of the normal activity of plunderers. This precision, this organisational and conceptional preparation of crimes which are often - I should even say mainly - carried out by people perfectly acquainted with the place, environment, terrain and possibilities within which they are operating - all this creates really immense difficulties in the exposing, detecting and proving of crimes. But it also imposes on our investigating and prosecuting machinery new obligations for the systematic raising of their standards of work, the raising of qualifications, the discovery of better ways of neutralising the ingenuity of criminals. Our initiative must be faster, better, more accurate.

15. Organs of the Prosecutor-General's office must devote more attention to matters concerning improvidence and shortcomings on the part of administrative organs. These matters deserve special attention.

16. Negligence by employees in the performance of their duties, the disregard of their obligations by the personnel managers of economic units, often result in huge material losses. We may take as examples of such cases the purchase of the liner "KASPROWY", and others such as the fire in the liner "KONOPNICKA"; the fire in the rolling mill at the Huta Lenina; the fire in the motor-bus factory at JELCZ and SANOK. Many other examples could be quoted which show that lack of supervision, lack of regard for duty, not infrequently border on criminal offences, or are in fact criminal offences and involve the national economy in losses of many millions.

17. The activity of the machinery for prosecution and the administration of justice constitute a single organic entity and inconsistencies in only one of its stages or elements may nullify, to a great extent, the achievements of other elements. Here again may be seen the great part which is played by the co-ordination of activities, and of the correct joint administration of all our resources and means.

18. The positive results achieved by the organs of prosecution are in

/some cases,

**SECRET**

50X1-HUM

9684

- 7 -

some cases, even to a marked extent, being nullified by weaknesses in the judicature and in the pronouncement of sentences. In spite of further changes in the judicature - particularly in the Penal Chamber of the Supreme Court - it can still be said that the criticism of the liberality of courts which was made at the Third Party Congress still stands to a large degree. One cannot remain indifferent to such facts as the sentence in the well-known case against the personnel of the "Praha" bar, in which the court did not hold that there had been a theft of communal property and treated leniently the perpetrators of irregularities running into millions, thus declining to apply the January law. Too often there are also cases of failure to pronounce a sentence of forfeiture of property even in cases where this is obligatory in law, and the degree of economic punishment decreed by some courts is often not commensurate with the amount of damage caused by the perpetrator's activities.

19. The situation as regards the carrying out of sentences, in particular of economic sentences, also calls for further improvement. This improvement will not only determine the effective recovery of damage suffered by the State, but will also have a fundamental influence on the attitude of public opinion to the efficacy of punishment with regard to swindlers and will establish the conviction among criminal elements that the plundering of communal property does not pay. "The rebuilding of Socialist productive strength and the consolidation of Socialist ownership relations" - said Comrade WIESLAW at the Third Party Congress - "constitute the decisive front of Socialist construction in our country". For these reasons the protection of communal property is on a level with that of the rights of a citizen as a first priority task which the Party sets before the community and the State machinery.

20. Economic crimes, and particularly big swindling cases, bring in their train not only material losses of millions but also do great moral and political harm; they disorganise the economic machine, demoralise the State

/apparatus

SECRET

50X1-HUM

9684



- 8 -

apparatus and, above all, give rise to understandable public indignation that criminal activity enables amoral individuals to achieve a luxurious living standard, private gains and fraudulent criminal profits from peoples' work and from communal property. Insufficiently energetic and consistent exposure and combating of criminal acts may have an influence and, here and there, certainly do have a demoralising influence on the attitude and industry of working people. The battlefront against major crimes of swindling is at the same time a front in the political struggle for a positive attitude in working people, for the establishment of a mass social belief in popular justice, of adherence to principle in the struggle with evil.

21. The next problem with which I should like to deal today and which has special political importance is the question of combating crimes of diversion, sabotage and espionage.

22. The battlefront against the anti-Socialist powers is now along lines other than those of the early years of the People's State, when hostile activity took the form of anti-State activities or of groups undertaking violent attempts on the lives of representatives of the People's authorities and diversionary and sabotage actions. The conditions no longer exist today for widespread activities of this kind. This does not, however, indicate that there are not attempts to undertake acts of sabotage. Although they are relatively few in number, cases of this kind must remain at the centre of the attention of the security organs, prosecutors and the courts. This is determined not only by the fact that they often cause important losses but also that the intentions of this criminal activity are directed against the most sensitive points in our national economy. The after-effects often greatly exceed the direct losses and paralyse the working of factories, communications etc.

22. In this sphere also, comrades, we look for a vital improvement. Every incident of destruction or damage to equipment in the national economy bearing the traces of wilful action must be keenly investigated. In doing this,

/however,

**SECRET**

50X1-HUM  
9684

- 9 -

however, great judgement, knowledge and care are needed in enquiring into the nature of such actions. It is not necessary to turn this into a witch-hunt or to seek a devil where there is none, for we still have enough genuine devils and we are concerned with seizing and destroying these. As soon, however, as it is established, after full consideration and care in the investigation of these cases, that there has been sabotage it is essential to proceed with all the severity of the law. The nature of these crimes must be proclaimed by the severity of the sentence.

23. The question of crimes of espionage also calls for delicate care and attention. For we know that attempts by the intelligence services of capitalist countries at espionage penetration of countries of our Socialist system have not weakened at all. Poland's geopolitical situation and her position in the Socialist camp expose our country all the more to the danger of interference by foreign intelligence services.

24. These matters are connected with a problem of the greatest importance - the protection of the Socialist regime [ustroj]. Criminal sabotage, diversion and espionage actions directly attack the basis of our regime. The first duty of our security service, prosecuting and court machinery is to oppose these operations with our highest political responsibility and adherence to principle.

25. Standing guard over the strict observance of the rules of Socialist law in the interest of the working masses, the machinery of prosecution and the administration of justice ensures social order and discipline and defends our political and economic regime against the enemies of Socialism, demoralised and anti-social elements whose activity throws out of gear our Communal life and the development of our State. Sometimes it is worth thinking of these matters in order to see in perspective among the dozens and even hundreds of individual cases and separate tasks, the long-term decisions and great problems; to see their political importance, since each of these measures constitutes a part of the endeavours which we are

**SECRET**

/undertaking 50X1-HUM

9084

SECRET  
50X1-HUM

50X1-HUM

- 10 -

undertaking jointly in the name of important political ends and principles.

26. The Prosecutor-General's office is an important element in our State machinery, standing guard over the interests of the State and society. Its activity, its participation in the battle against crime, and in action designed to strengthen the Socialist legal order, influence to a large degree the sum-total of results achieved by us in this sphere. The positive assessment of the activity of the Prosecutor-General's office which the Council of State has made is a mark of the recognition given by the Party and the Government to the self-sacrifice, idealism, political attitude and energy of the Prosecutor-General's staff which, in spite of far from easy working conditions, in spite of difficult, complicated and every-increasing tasks, has been able to mobilise its forces in order to set about the tasks laid before it earnestly and with a sense of responsibility. The Party and the Government continue to count on You, on the prosecutors - leaders, both party and non-party, in the forefront of the political struggle for the strengthening of the Socialist regime. They count on you all the more because, as today's discussion has shown, you yourselves see and set yourselves ambitious tasks. Your initiative constantly enriches the programme and the resources of this struggle rendering them ever more correct and effective. I wish to take this opportunity of expressing the opinion that our meeting and discussions today will lead to a further strengthening and growth of the offensive undertaken against all that is foreign and hostile to us all, that hampers our economic development, and that our prosecutors will - in future as hitherto - earnestly perform their hard and responsible work, their difficult and responsible tasks, for the good of our People's Fatherland. I wish you well in this.

Ryszard STRZELECKI.

SECRET

50X1-HUM

9684