

## **January 21, 1971**

### **Warsaw Embassy Criticism of Radio Free Europe**

#### **Citation:**

"Warsaw Embassy Criticism of Radio Free Europe", January 21, 1971, Wilson Center Digital Archive, Obtained and contributed to CWIHP by A. Ross Johnson. Referenced Ch8 p213 in his book Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty, CIA mandatory declassification review document number C05459054.

<https://wilson-center-digital-archive.dvincitest.com/document/115131>

#### **Summary:**

In Warsaw Embassy Dispatch No. 192, Ambassador Walter Stoessel criticizes RFE's abusive personal characterizations of individual Polish leaders

#### **Credits:**

This document was made possible with support from Blavatnik Family Foundation

#### **Original Language:**

English

#### **Contents:**

Original Scan

AR-00



Department of State

TELEGRAM

SECRET 835

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO: OCT-01 SS-20 USJA-04 INR-07 P-01 RSR-01 RSC-01 1047 W  
041851

R 210800Z JAN 71

FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4024  
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMCONSUL MUNICH

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DOCUMENT: 16-Feb-2011

S E C R E T WARSAW 192

LIMDIS

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SUBJ: RFE BROADCASTS TO POLAND

REF: BONN 614

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16 JAN 8

1. WE ARE CONCERNED ABOUT RFE BROADCASTS TO POLAND FOR SEVERAL REASONS:

- A. VICE FOREIGN MINISTER WINIEWICZ DEMARCHE JANUARY 6 (WARSAW 050) ONCE AGAIN REFLECTED SENSITIVITY TO USE OF VITUPERATIVE LANGUAGE CONCERNING POLISH POLITICAL PERSONALITIES.
- B. FRG FON MIN SCHEEL'S INTEREST IN A REVIEW OF RFE POLISH BROADCASTS REVEALS APPARENT FRG SENSITIVITY TO LIKELY POLISH PROTESTS.
- C. AT TIME WHEN IT IS NOT KNOWN HOW MUCH INFLUENCE MOCZAR MAY HAVE ON POLICIES OF POLISH PARTY AND GOVERNMENT, AND QUESTION OF POLISH ATTITUDE TOWARD U.S. IS NOT YET CLEAR, RFE ATTACKS ON POLISH PERSONALITIES MAY DAMAGE U.S. INTERESTS.

2. IN ADDITION TO SPECIAL PROGRAM BROADCASTS CITED: R FTTEL, FACTS AND VIEWS NOS. 3318 (DEC 16), 3323 AND 3 26 (DEC 29) ALSO CONTAIN ABUSIVE LANGUAGE DIRECTED AGAINST MOCZAR. WE HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE TO LOCATE BROADCAST WHICH, ACCORDING TO WINIEWICZ, MENTIONED G. EREK'S TRIP TO MOSCOW "TO GET HIS ORDERS".

3. IT SEEMS TO US THAT GENERALIZED CRITICISM OF

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Dept. of State, ISS/IPS, Margaret P. Grafeld, Dir.

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With concurrence of *SIA* Date *9/15/11*

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MILITIA BEHAVIOR DURING RIOTS IN BALTIC COAST AREA WOULD HAVE BEEN SUFFICIENT WITHOUT USE OF MOCZAR'S NAME. REFERENCE TO MOCZAR AS MINISTER OF INTERIOR IN MARCH 1968 WHEN STUDENT RIOTS WERE PUT DOWN WOULD LIKEWISE BE AMPLY CLEAR TO POLISH LISTENER. CONCERN OF TRATION OF FIRE ON MOCZAR WHILE PRESENT MINISTER OF INTERIOR SWITALA HAS VIRTUALLY ESCAPED MENTION ALSO APPEARS UNBALANCED, EVEN WITHIN CONTEXT OF ATTACK ON MILITIA ACTIONS.

U.S. W. HAVE PREVIOUSLY RECOMMENDED THAT RFE AVOID BITTER OR ABUSIVE LANGUAGE AND TONE IN BROADCASTS. FURTHERMORE, THERE SHOULD NOT BE SPECIAL BIAS SHOWN AGAINST SELECTED POLITICAL LEADERS. IN VIEW OF MOCZAR'S PROMOTION TO FULL POLITBURO MEMBER, HIS INFLUENCE IN AREAS OF INTEREST TO USG OR POLISH PEOPLE MAY WELL INCREASE. IT WOULD THEREFORE APPEAR TO BE DESIRABLE TO SHOW EXTRA CAUTION AND PRUDENCE IN TEXTS OF BROADCASTS. LIKEWISE, UNCOMPLIMENTARY REMARKS ABOUT GIEREK (SUCH AS THAT CITED BY WINIEWICZ), IF TRUE, CANNOT BUT MAKE IT MORE DIFFICULT TO PROMOTE U.S. INTERESTS IN POLAND. REQUEST THEREFORE THAT RFE REVIEW BROADCASTS WITH AIM OF ELIMINATING HARSH ATTACKS ON PERSONALITIES AND, WHERE NECESSARY, MODERATING OVERALL TONE OF BROADCASTS.

GP-3.  
STOESEL

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