

DECLARATION

of the Polish National Democratic Committee

The real aims of the Berlin-Warsaw agreement on frontiers

The Polish National Democratic Committee in their memorandum, submitted to the conference of the Three Foreign Ministers held in London, in May 1950, among other things, expressed the position of the Polish nation with respect to the western frontiers of Poland, stating that: "The whole Polish nation is unanimous as to the necessity of the maintenance of the present Polish German frontier on the Oder and Neisse Luzycka rivers."

The memorandum, submitted at the time when the question of the future German peace treaty was discussed and when on the part of Western Germany there were made first efforts raising the necessity of revision of these frontiers, stated that "the territories to the east of the Oder and Neisse rivers have a Polish population of seven million inhabitants, and in spite of the difficulties made by the communist regime, these territories have been rebuilt by a gigantic effort on the part of the ruined by the war Polish nation and brought to a state of cultivation through its work and investment of native capital and integrated into the Polish national economy as an integral part of it."

The memorandum, stressing the responsibility of the Germans for the war and for the damages and losses inflicted upon Poland, warned against the revival of German economic hegemony in Europe and against the revival of German militarism and imperialism, stating that "The Polish nation cannot be constantly moved either to the West or to the East, for the sake of conjunctural political fluctuations, connected with the position of the powers towards Russia or Germany and bringing constantly the same results - the regeneration of imperialism."

The Potsdam Agreement - with the consent of the Big Three - placed these territories under the administration of Poland, stipulating - it is true - that the final formal acceptance of this decision was to be made at the peace conference. The fact accomplished, however, on the basis of the unanimous agreement and the cooperation of the Big Three, inherent in this agreement, in transferring the rest of the Germans from these territories, populating, investing money and the managing of these territories by the Poles - could not and cannot arouse any doubts as to the intended durability of this solution.

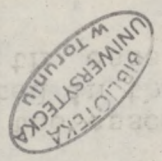
The actual state of affairs, brought about by decisions made at the Potsdam Conference, is such that the Big Powers, that made the agreement at Potsdam - if they changed their stand now - would have to take responsibility for the compulsory against the will of the Polish nation/ transfer of millions of Poles and for the confiscation of billions invested by the Polish nation in these historical Polish territories.

We do not think that the methods used by Hitler and Stalin, and their consent to deal a new blow to the Polish nation - after so many injuries inflicted upon it by the dictatorships of Hitler and Stalin - would meet with the approval of public opinion of the Western democracies.

In this light the recent agreement between the German and Polish communist regimes concluded in Warsaw, basically, does not bring anything new in the matter of the frontier.

The frontier problems do not constitute the essential part of this recent agreement, although they are presented in the first paragraph of the agreement, ~~which~~ the purposes and the essence of this

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agreement are explained in the remaining clauses.

For the communists the frontier problems are of secondary importance, because they strive toward a world communist state. The best confirmation of this is the opinion of the chief of the Polish military mission expressed to the German communists in Berlin in 1946. "Our /communist/ immediate aim is to make the whole of Europe communist, when we attain it - then we will fix for ourselves the inner frontiers as we please."

The recent agreement of the Polish and German communists has two main aims: concealed behind the frontiers problem:

- /1/ To increase the production of communist Germany at the expense of the Polish national economy;
- /2/ To integrate further the national economies of Poland and Germany into the Soviet economy.

Soviet Russia announced not long ago, that she reduced the amount of war reparations due to her from Germany. Poland, which according to the Potsdam decisions was to receive her war reparations from Germany through Moscow - was forced in practice, to deliver to Soviet Russia 12 million tons of coal yearly at the price of \$ 1,25 per ton. In reality then Poland instead of Germany pays voluntarily to Soviet Russia about 150 millions dollars yearly because of the low price of the coal delivered to Russia.

Soviet Russia took from Germany, as war reparations, property of the value of several billions of dollars, of which Poland received nothing. Supposedly reducing now the sum of German reparations pretendedly to 7 billion dollars, Russia has not reduced the quota of the so-called reparation coal which Poland sends to Russia, but has compelled Poland to reduce the Polish claims to reparations.

Soviet Russia knows, however, that she will not receive all the reparations from Germany if she does not supply Germany with coal, steel, grain and meat. Such being the case, Russia has made Poland to deliver these raw materials to Germany on credit. Poland then, besides the 12 million tons of reparation coal sent yearly to Russia, already delivers 3 million tons of coal to Eastern Germany as well as meat and grain. On the basis of this recent agreement Poland is to increase her export to communist Germany by 60% and on terms of unlimited credit.

In this way the Polish raw materials delivered to Germany on credit are to increase the production of Eastern Germany to such an extent that the Soviet Union would be able to procure the German products - as war reparations - and use them for the needs of the Soviet economy and Soviet war preparadeness.

In this manner - the recent agreement between the German and Polish communists imposes a double burden on the Polish economy benefiting the Soviet Union - indirectly by aiding communist Germany. This is done by further exploitation of the Polish nation for whom this decision was sweetened by the declaration concerning the frontiers.

This agreement means also further integration of Eastern Germany and Poland into the sphere of the Soviet economy. This integration is envisaged by these articles of the agreement which deal with the adjustment of the economic plans of Poland and Eastern Germany, professional consultation as well as scientific, literary and cultural exchange.

Under these provisions there are concealed the notorious Soviet instructors, acting on the basis of the economic plans of the countries behind the iron curtain - plans which are prepared in Moscow and the

main aim of which is systematic integration of the national economies of the countries behind the iron curtain into the sphere of the Soviet economy.

In summary it must be stated that the first article of the agreement of the Polish and German communists dealing with the frontier problem - introducing nothing new into the actual state of affairs - serves only as a cover for further exploitation of the Polish economy by the Soviet Union and constitutes a new step on the way toward the integration of Poland and Eastern Germany into the sphere of the Soviet economy and Soviet war preparedness.

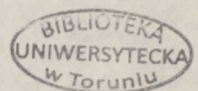
The communist aims will not, however conceal the truth, which unintentionally has been disclosed, namely:

- /1/ Even the communists - knowing the feelings of the Polish people - did not dare to impose on them new burdens without concealing this decision by the statement of a positive stand on the frontier, on the Oder-Neisse rivers.
- /2/ For the first time officially - a great number of the Germans has recognized the fairness of this frontier.
- /3/ This agreement confirms the fact that these territories do not have to belong to Germany to maintain the German production.

When Soviet exploitation ceases and the process of the economic integration of the occupied countries by the Soviet Union into its economic sphere is discontinued - then a sound basis for the exchange of goods will be restored between Poland and Germany, and conditions of a neighborly goods exchange will be created between them without any necessity of making changes in Polish-German frontiers.

The Polish National Democratic Committee, protesting against the new burdens and increased exploitation of the Polish nation as a result of the agreement of the Polish and German communists, stresses once again the necessity of the earliest restoration of freedom to the Polish nation, and of stopping the war preparations of Soviet Russia made at the expense of the work and hard earned money of the Polish nation.

Washington, June 24, 1950.



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