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INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	Poland	DATE DISTR. 19	
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SOURCE

1. The Position of Cyrankiewicz.

The position of Premier Cyrankiewicz is growing more insecure both in the government and in his party, the PPS. Anti-fusionist members of the latter are accusing him of permitting himself to be used as a Communist tool and of offering only a weak resistance to PPR attempts at fusion. At the same time his behavior is alienating the Communists, who consider that his tactics are aimed at gaining time. Pro-fusionist members of the PPS are relying on Kazimir Rusinek to check these maneuvers of Cyrankiewicz. Rusinek is Vice President of the Central Committee of PPS and Minister of Social Welfare, and his pro-fusionist sentiments are well known. Some expect him to be the next premier.

2. Worker Discontent in Szczecin.

There is at the present time a general feeling of discontent among the workers in Szczecin because of the rapid and continuing rise in the cost of living. Moreover, the section of the population supporting the PPS appears ready to resist PPR pressure. Lately the PPS has held numerous local meetings of a lively character. The two following incidents are unprecendented in Szczecin and have caused a great deal of comment:

a. On 15 October 1947 workers in the municipal slaughterhouse sent a delegation to the mayor of the city to demand a share in the profits. At the time the slaughterhouse was making profits of about 1,500,000 zlotys monthly. The PPS Party supported the claims of the workers, and the latter won their case. They received a sum of 10,000 zlotys and the promise of monthly supplement of about 15,000 zlotys.

b. On 15 November the city tramway workers demanded 250 zlotys in addition to their regular pay for the "creation of a tramway cooperative". The director at first refused but reversed himself when faced with the threat of a strike and ordered the 250 zlotys given to the employees provisionally.

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