

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	Poland	REPORT	
SUBJECT	1. Bierut-Gottwald Feud Concerning Zymierski. 2. Imprisonment of Komar 3. Purge of Colonel Torunczyk	DATE DISTR.	25 June 1953
DATE OF INFO.		NO. OF PAGES	1
PLACE ACQUIRED		REQUIREMENT NO.	RD
		REFERENCES	25X1

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1. According to rumors, Boleslaw Bierut breathed a lot easier when news of Klement Gottwald's death reached Warsaw. Gottwald had hated Bierut for a long time and took every opportunity to belittle Bierut at the Kremlin, where he had a greater influence than Bierut. At Stalin's funeral, Gottwald made apparent affronts to Bierut and treated Bierut as the lowest Communist in the Communist hierarchy. Further, it was Gottwald who had caused the fall of Marshal Zymierski without the knowledge of Bierut. This ouster of Zymierski was effected against the wishes of Bierut. Gottwald had accused Zymierski, together with some Czech generals, of planning to follow the Tito line. After Zymierski's dismissal, Gottwald was able to discharge any of the Czech generals who he thought were unreliable.

2. The purge of the Jews in the Polish Army has affected General Komar who was Chief of Army Intelligence when Zymierski was head of the army. Later, Komar became the Quartermaster General of the Army. Komar is said to be in prison at Warsaw or Brest, although some people claim he has been deported to the USSR. He was sentenced for some major crimes which he allegedly committed during the time that he served in the International Brigade in Spain.

3. Another person who has been dismissed from the army is Colonel Torunczyk who was the Commander in Chief of the OMO (Citizens' Reserve Militia) and later, the Commander of the KBW (Internal Security Corps).

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4. Stefan Wierblowski, who was a powerful and clamorous vice-minister in the foreign office is gradually being pushed into the background. On the other hand, it appears that Hilary Minc is getting back into the good graces of the Party. Minc had been seen at Stalin's funeral and he had later made an official speech which was printed in the newspapers.

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