

AMS BUDGET (600)

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1 July 1964

NIGHT LEAD KENNEDY

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ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

WARSAW, POLAND, JULY 1 (AP)-ATTY. GEN. ROBERT F. KENNEDY

ENDED A SHORT VISIT TODAY TO POLAND THAT PROVIDED A CLEAR PICTURE OF THE POLISH ATTITUDE TOWARD THE UNITED STATES: GREAT WARMTH AMONG THE PEOPLE, COOLNESS AT THE OFFICIAL LEVEL.

THAT ATTITUDE WAS SHOWN UP TO THE MINUTE OF HIS DEPARTURE. SEVERAL HUNDRED POLES ASSEMBLED OUTSIDE HIS HOTEL AND SERENADED HIM WITH A CHORUS OF "STO LAT" (MAY YOU LIVE 100 YEARS.) HE HAD HEARD IT TIME AND AGAIN SINCE HIS ARRIVAL SATURDAY.

THE PEOPLE--150 OF THEM--WERE STANDING OUTSIDE THE FRNCE. HE GOT OUT OF HIS CAR AND SHOOK HANDS WITH MOST OF THEM. TWO OLD WOMEN CRIED. BUT ASIDE FROM LOW-RANKING AIDES, NO POLISH OFFICIAL WAS AT THE AIRPORT.

KENNEDY ALSO WAS PICKETED FOR THE FIRST TIME BY POLES BEARING PLACARDS READING: "IN THE NAME OF PEACE, DON'T GIVE NUCLEAR ARMS TO WEST GERMANY" AND "WHY DOESN'T THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES RECOGNIZE OUR FRONTIERS ON THE ODER AND THE NEISSE?"

KENNEDY SHOOK HANDS WITH THE PICKETS TOO.

KENNEDY TOOK WITH HIM MEMORIES OF AN EMOTIONAL EXPERIENCE OF TENS OF THOUSANDS OF ORDINARY POLES CHEERING HIM IN THE STREETS.

THE MAIN IDEA HE LEFT IN INFORMAL SPEECHES TO OFFICIALS AND THE PUBLIC IS THAT POLAND CAN AND SHOULD PLAY A MORE ACTIVE ROLE IN IMPROVING U.S.-SOVIET RELATIONS BECAUSE OF ITS CONNECTIONS WITH THE RUSSIANS AND THE BLOOD TIES WITH AMERICANS OF POLISH EXTRACTION.

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FOREIGN MINISTER ADAM RAPACKI WAS SAID BY INFORMANTS TO BE INTERESTED. KENNEDY ALSO STIRRED INTEREST, IF NOT AGREEMENT WHEN HE URGED THAT THE GERMAN QUESTION BE SETTLED SOON RATHER THAN LATER WHEN IT WOULD BECOME MORE DIFFICULT TO GUARANTEE POLISH SECURITY.

OFFICIALS HAD WANTED HIM TO VOICE SUPPORT FOR KEEPING THE GERMAN-POLISH BORDER ALONG THE ODER AND NEISSE RIVERS.

KENNEDY'S FINAL STATEMENT, HANDED TO REPORTERS, SAID "THE RECONCILIATION OF EASTERN AND WESTERN EUROPE IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE UNITED STATES" WAS "THE ONLY SURE GUARANTEE AGAINST NUCLEAR

WAR, WHETHER BY DESIGN OR ACCIDENT."

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL ALSO TOLD REPORTERS THE POLES WERE A STRONGLY RELIGIOUS PEOPLE DEVOTED TO THEIR FAITH AND BELIEF IN GOD," A STATEMENT HARDLY EXPECTED TO SET WELL WITH AN ATHEIST GOVERNMENT.

THERE WAS NO ARGUMENT WITH KENNEDY'S CALL FOR A RECONCILIATION OF EASTERN AND WESTERN EUROPE AND HIS OPINION THAT THE YOUNG GENERATION SHOULD WORK AT THIS CAUSE.

BUT KENNEDY'S OWN METHOD OF GETTING ACROSS IDEAS IN STUMP-STYLE SPEECHES STIRRED SOME RESENTMENT IN THE GOVERNMENT.

INFORMANTS SAID AT LEAST ONE OFFICIAL ACCUSED THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL OF MISCONDUCT BY POLISH OR EUROPEAN STANDARDS BY CLIMBING ATOP CARS TO TALK TO STREET CROWDS.

AT SUCH APPEARANCES, KENNEDY WOULD DEMONSTRATE POLISH TIES WITH AMERICAN BY ASKING HOW MANY HAD RELATIVES IN THE UNITED STATES. NEARLY HALF THE PEOPLE WOULD RAISE THEIR HANDS AND THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, HIS WIFE AND CHILDREN ALWAYS WOUND UP BEING CHEERED AND SERENADED.

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SOME POLISH OFFICIALS WERE SAID TO FEEL KENNEDY USED HIS TRIP MAINLY TO IMPRESS POLISH-AMERICAN VOTERS IN THE UNITED STATES AND THIS WAS OFFENSIVE TO THE GOVERNMENT.

ALTHOUGH HE JOKED ABOUT IT, KENNEDY WAS ICKED BY THE NEARSILENT TREATMENT GIVEN HIM BY THE REGIME'S PRESS AND RADIO.

HIS SATURDAY ARRIVAL WAS ANNOUNCED ON RADIO AND TELEVISION 24 HOURS LATER. THE FIRST SMALL STORIES IN THE PAPERS WERE PUBLISHED AFTER KENNEDY HAD BEEN IN POLAND 1 1/2 DAYS.

THERE HAS BEEN NO PRESS COMMENT SO FAR ON THE VISIT, WHICH WAS ALWAYS DESCRIBED AS PRIVATE.

THERE WERE SUGGESTIONS THAT KENNEDY SHOULD HAVE BEEN RECEIVED BY COMMUNIST LEADER WLADYSLAW GOMULKA OR PREMIER JOZEF CYRANKIEWICZ BUT NO AMERICAN AMBASSADOR HAS HAD AUDIENCES WITH THEM IN RECENT YEARS. IN ANY CASE KENNEDY ACCEPTED THE OFFICIAL EXPLANATION THAT THEY WERE BUSY ENTERTAINING VISITING PRESIDENT TITO OF YUGOSLAVIA.

KENNEDY CALLED ON STEFAN CARDINAL WYSZYNSKI, CATHOLIC PRIMATE OF POLAND AGAINST THE ADVICE OF GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS. IT WAS LEARNED THEY TOLD HIM THIS WOULD BE ILL-ADVISED AND AGAINST THE BEST INTERESTS OF POLISH-AMERICAN RELATIONS. HE WENT ANYWAY, POINTING OUT HE IS A MEMBER OF THE CATHOLIC FAITH.

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