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The Polish Ministry of Information, Stratton House, Stratton Str. W.I.
August 22nd 1944

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This is to inform you that the following article appeared in the August 19, 1944 issue of the "Economist"

Polish Dilemma

M. Mikolajczyk, the Polish Prime Minister, has come back from Moscow with proposals for a Polish settlement. Details of the proposals are not yet known: and they are now being discussed by the Polish Government. It is fairly obvious that the scheme conceived in Moscow is based on a rigid recognition of the Polish Committee of Liberation. M. Mikolajczyk has been asked to relinquish his post of Prime Minister and to become the Chairman of the Committee. He has also been asked to induce some of his colleagues in London to join that body. The possibility of the Polish Government agreeing to those suggestions seems very remote indeed. More important still, even if the Government in London agreed, the underground movements in Poland ^{now} itself would almost certainly refuse to endorse the agreement. This has been made clear by M. Arciszewski the Chairman of the Polish Socialist Party and the new President Designate of Poland, who left Warsaw in July. M. Arciszewski has declared that the Polish underground movements desires an honourable and straight understanding with Russia. They have assisted the Soviet Armies advancing into Poland, wherever that has been possible. They are also willing to accept the representatives of the Communist Party in the governmental Coalition on an equal footing with the spokesmen of the other political tendencies. But this is, according to the President Designate, the limit of the concessions which the Polish underground is ready to make. In no circumstances would it consent to the self-effacement of a Government to which it has remained faithful during five tragic years of German occupation. In theory the only way out still left open is that the Government and the Committee should both give place to a Provisional Government to be set up in Warsaw immediately after liberation. Such a scheme would formally overcome the difficulties which spring from the conflicting claims of the Government and the Committee. Whether a similar scheme would satisfy the Russian remains to be seen. If the new Provisional Government created in Warsaw is to be really representative of the Polish people it would of necessity be almost a political replica of the London Government, supplemented by Communists, however much its personnel might be changed. The rift between Poland and Russia has already produced lamentable results inside Poland where extreme anti-Soviet and Fascist organisations have started something

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like a civil war, not only against Communists, but also against all who preach conciliation with Russia or any territorial cessions. The Polish Government has decided to put those organisations beyond the pale. It is strange, to say the least, that in view of these facts accusations of of Fascism and so forth should still be flung at that Government.

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