



Philadelphia, May 11, 1944

STATEMENT OF JAN STANCZYK, POLISH MINISTER OF LABOUR AND SOCIAL WELFARE, HEAD OF POLISH DELEGATION TO THE INTERNATIONAL LABOUR OFFICE CONFERENCE IN PHILADELPHIA

As a member of Polish Cabinet I would like to take this opportunity of giving the American public the Polish viewpoint on a number of vital current issues.

First of all, as this is my second visit to the United States, I desire to pay tribute to the American war effort, particularly to American production, which is fulfilling the hard task of your country's and other United Nations' war needs. I would like to pay tribute, as well, to the tremendous contribution of American labor to the success of your war program. I was last here in October 1941, at a previous I.L.O. Conference, just before the Japanese, acting in line with a long-prepared Axis conspiracy, made their attack on Pearl Harbor. Coming here now from Great Britain - the fortress of the impending invasion - I have been able to observe changes during the few weeks I have been here, which are truly remarkable, and convince me still more profoundly about the greatness of America's contribution towards the triumph of Democracy and Freedom. The suffering people of Nazi-occupied Europe will be everlastingly grateful to the United States.

Poland has always looked upon the United States as an exemplar of democracy. The <sup>Poles</sup> ~~Polish~~ nation has great admiration for the American people, ~~being~~ being led by one of the major figures of world history - your President, Mr. Roosevelt. The <sup>Poles are</sup> ~~Polish~~ nation is deeply grateful to Mr. Roosevelt for his inspiring encouragement to our country in its struggle for liberation.

I want to emphasize that the Polish <sup>people</sup> ~~Nation~~ today <sup>are</sup> ~~is~~ continuing its struggle against the invader as indomitably and with the same spirit of sacrifice as at the beginning of the war. There is no power which is able to divert our people from the objective of driving the Germans from Polish soil. Neither the German or any other anti-Russian propaganda, nor German threats, and mass-terror will have any effect. The Polish people cannot be turned from the task of defeating the common enemy of all the United Nations.

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Philadelphia, May 17, 1944

STATEMENT OF JAN STANISLAW, POLISH MINISTER OF LABOUR AND SOCIAL WELFARE, HEAD OF POLISH DELEGATION TO THE INTERNATIONAL LABOUR OFFICE CONFERENCE IN PHILADELPHIA

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Poland has always looked upon the United States as an exemplar of democracy. The Polish nation has great admiration for the American people, embodied in one of the major figures of world history - your President, Mr. Roosevelt. The Polish nation is deeply grateful to Mr. Roosevelt for his inspiring encouragement to our country in its struggle for liberation.

I want to emphasize that the Polish Nation today is continuing its struggle against the invader as indomitably and with the same spirit of sacrifice as at the beginning of the war. There is no power which is able to divert our people from the objective of driving the Germans from Polish soil. Neither the Germans or any other anti-Russian propaganda, nor German threats, and mass-terror will have any effect. The Polish people cannot be turned from the task of defeating the common enemy of all the United Nations.



The most recent proof of this is the order of the Polish Government to its underground army to collaborate with the Soviet forces.

I believe not only in Russian-Polish collaboration in the military field but in a permanent understanding between Russia and Poland in the interest of both nations. The Russian-Polish problem is an intricate one, requiring understanding and good will on both sides, and an application of principles which will guarantee the security of both nations and enable them to enjoy the friendliest collaboration. This is my own, <sup>the</sup> ~~my~~ Government's, and <sup>the Polish</sup> ~~my~~ people's deep conviction.

The Polish <sup>people</sup> ~~Government~~ and <sup>its government</sup> ~~people~~ are united on what kind of Poland we will build after the war. We will have a genuine democratic system of government. The war has made us even more conscious of the real meaning of democracy in a nation's life.

As a member of the Polish Government, I unreservedly condemn anti-semitism. I consider anti-semitism a crime against humanity. During the horrible years of Nazi occupation, all Poles <sup>and</sup> - Jews ~~and~~ Gentiles - have become brothers in suffering and in the common fight for liberation. These ties are stronger than any old prejudices, which may still be latent among a few fanatics. The Polish masses have never been, and under no circumstances will ever be anti-semitic. We are united on the principle of full equality of all men, regardless of race or creed.

Today we are already preparing a comprehensive program for the economic reconstruction of our devastated country.

The Polish people will be deeply interested in the work of the present I.L.O. Conference. Poland was one of the few countries which adopted the social and economic measures, recommended by the first I.L.O. Conference held in Washington, D.C., in 1919. We also adopted measures recommended by succeeding I.L.O. conventions. Today we are ready to <sup>apply</sup> ~~employ~~ the I.L.O. Philadelphia Charter and all accompanying recommendations worked out here.

We have submitted a resolution for the betterment of agricultural countries, as it is impossible in our time to guarantee the well-being of the community of nations while some are impoverished.

We have also submitted a resolution calling upon the conference



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to condemn the mass murder of Jews and Poles. These annihilations are unprecedented in modern history.

I look forward to the new world that will be born after this war as a world established on the principles of the Atlantic Charter and on the practice of the Four Freedoms - and which will guarantee all nations, great and small, poor and rich, full rights to enjoy freedom and well-being.



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