

January 7, 1981

Intelligence Information Cable, 'Validity of Polish General Dubicki's Comments to the Press about Alleged Soviet Troops Wearing Polish Uniforms'

Citation:

"Intelligence Information Cable, 'Validity of Polish General Dubicki's Comments to the Press about Alleged Soviet Troops Wearing Polish Uniforms'", January 7, 1981, Wilson Center Digital Archive, CIA declassification, 2008
<https://wilson-center.drivingcreative.com/document/165268>

Summary:

Assesses the validity of Gen. Leon Dubicki's allegations Soviet troops are wearing Polish uniforms in the implementation of martial law.

Credits:

This document was made possible with support from MacArthur Foundation

Original Language:

English

Contents:

Original Scan

Intelligence Information Cable



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REPORT CLASS

COUNTRY POLAND/USSR

SUBJECT VALIDITY OF POLISH GENERAL DUBICKI'S COMMENTS TO THE PRESS ABOUT ALLEGED SOVIET TROOPS WEARING POLISH UNIFORMS (DOI: LATE DECEMBER 1983)

SOURCE A FORMER POLISH GENERAL STAFF OFFICER WHO MADE THE FOLLOWING COMMENTS BASED ON HIS PAST EXPERIENCE AND CONTACTS. HE HAS REPORTED RELIABLY IN THE PAST.

1. WITH REGARD TO STATEMENTS MADE RECENTLY BY POLISH GENERAL LEON DUBICKI TO THE WEST GERMAN PRESS REGARDING SOVIET TROOPS WEARING POLISH UNIFORMS PARTICIPATING IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF MARTIAL LAW, A FORMER POLISH GENERAL STAFF OFFICER (SOURCE) COMMENTED THAT THESE STATEMENTS WERE AT BEST IMPRECISE. THE POLISH MILITARY HAD PROBABLY PLACED A LARGE ORDER FOR UNIFORMS TO BE USED BY THE MILITIA WHICH DUBICKI MAY HAVE HEARD ABOUT AND WHICH ADDED FUEL TO THE RUMOR THAT THE UNIFORMS WERE BEING MADE FOR THE SOVIETS. DISCUSSIONS ON THAT SUBJECT DID TAKE PLACE IN THE POLISH GENERAL STAFF, BUT THERE WAS NEVER ANY EVIDENCE THAT ANYTHING HAD COME OF THOSE DISCUSSIONS. THE POLISH OFFICER DID NOT EXCLUDE THE POSSIBILITY OF SMALL SCALE USE OF POLISH UNIFORMS BY SOVIETS (E.G.,

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FOR RECONNAISSANCE OR INTELLIGENCE GATHERING OPERATIONS} BUT HE TOTALLY DISCOUNTED THE POSSIBILITY OF LARGE SCALE USE OF POLISH UNIFORMS AS A RUMOR WITH NO FACTUAL BASIS.

2. SOURCE COMMENT: SOURCE KNEW DUBICKI ONLY BY REPUTATION. HE CHARACTERIZED DUBICKI AS A MAN OF RUSSIAN DESCENT WHO SPOKE WEAK POLISH WITH A RUSSIAN ACCENT. HE IS A MEDIOCRE INDIVIDUAL WITH LIMITED HORIZONS WHO HAD NO REAL AUTHORITY IN THE POLISH MILITARY. HE HAD A POOR REPUTATION IN MILITARY CIRCLES AND WAS GENERALLY REGARDED AS ONE OF THE WEAKEST POLISH GENERALS. DUBICKI HAD VERY LITTLE KNOWLEDGE OF MILITARY PROBLEMS AND HAS NO CURRENT ACCESS TO THE POLISH MILITARY. HIS ONLY SOURCES OF INFORMATION WOULD BE OLDER, RETIRED MILITARY OFFICERS OF HIS GENERATION. DUBICKI WAS RELEASED TO THE RESERVES IN THE MIDDLE 1960S. HE WAS CONSIDERED A THIRD ECHELON OFFICER WHOSE ACCESS EVEN WHILE ON ACTIVE DUTY WAS LIMITED.

[Redacted] COMMENT: ANOTHER USUALLY RELIABLE POLISH SOURCE [Redacted]

[Redacted] CONFIRMED THE FOREGOING COMMENTS REGARDING DUBICKI POINT BY POINT.]

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