

THE EVENTS IN POLAND

THE EVENTS IN POLAND connected with the meeting of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers (Communist) Party and the visit of a group of Soviet leaders to Warsaw are being reported as this issue goes to press, too late for any review or commentary. Much remains unclear out of the many contradictory reports that have so far been printed. Before our next issue comes out we hope enough factual material will be available for an authoritative review of events, particularly in the light of the forthcoming visit of Polish Party leaders to Moscow to continue the Warsaw discussions.

It is at any rate clear that both sides are determined to maintain close and friendly relations. This was emphasized by Wladyslav Gomułka, restored to leadership by the Polish Party as a direct result, it should be noted, of the re-evaluation of the Stalin era at the 20th Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union. In his speech following the discussions with the Soviet leaders, Gomułka warned that Poland's determination to follow its own democratic road to socialism must not be exploited by the enemies of socialism. He declared that the Party and all the people must present "resolute opposition to the whisper campaign and voices aiming at weakening our friendship with the Soviet Union."

It is important to keep in mind that whatever differences there are between Polish and Soviet leaders, they are bound together by a vital common concern for socialism, for the maintenance of world peace and the prevention of any revival of German militarism, from which they have both suffered so much and which threatens again in the rearming of Western Germany.

We confidently hope that out of continuing discussions a reconciliation of viewpoints will be reached that will take into account both the special interests of the Polish people and the mutual interests of the two countries as socialist states.

THE EDITORS