

9.11.68

CN 12

X/9 P -- MORNING INTRO - WARSAW STUDENTS

MUNICH, MARCH 9 (CNR)--CALM HAS RETURNED TO THE OUTSIDE OF WARSAW UNIVERSITY FOLLOWING SEVERAL HOURS OF PROTESTS BY THOUSANDS OF ANGRY STUDENTS WHO WERE DISPERSED BY BATON-SWINGING MILITIA.

WESTERN NEWS AGENCIES REPORTED THAT THE STUDENTS HAD DRAWN UP A RESOLUTION CONDEMNING THE EXPULSION OF TWO OF THEIR COLLEAGUES. THEY MILLED AROUND THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY SHOUTING UNSUCCESSFULLY FOR THE RECTOR.

LATER, WHEN THE PLAINCLOTHES AUXILIARY POLICE FAILED TO DISPERSE THEM, TRUCKLOADS OF MILITIA ARRIVED ON THE SCENE, SEALING OFF THE APPROACHES TO THE UNIVERSITY AND DIVERTING TRAFFIC.

THEY MOVED INTO THE UNIVERSITY GROUNDS SWINGING THEIR BATONS, AND CHASED THE STUDENTS INTO WARSAW'S MAIN STREET.

DURING THE ACTION A WESTERN NEWS AGENCY CORRESPONDENT AND HIS POLISH TRANSLATOR WERE ARRESTED BUT RELEASED LATER. THERE WERE CONFLICTING REPORTS FROM NEWS AGENCIES AS TO WHETHER ANY STUDENTS WERE DETAINED.

THE DEMONSTRATIONS WERE HELD TO DEMAND THE REINSTATEMENT OF TWO STUDENTS EXPELLED FOR TAKING PART IN EARLIER PROTESTS AGAINST THE CLOSING OF THE CLASSIC POLISH PLAY, DZIADY.

THE PLAY -- DEPICTING POLISH SUFFERING UNDER TSARIST RUSSIAN OPPRESSION ANDCONTAINING ANTI-RUSSIAN LINES -- WAS CLOSED BY THE REGIME FOR ALLEGED HOOLIGAN EXCESSES IN THE AUDIENCE.

DURING THE EARLY PART OF THE DEMONSTRATIONS THE STUDENTS CARRIED POSTERS ADVERTISING THE PLAY AND SHOUTING SLOGANS SUCH AS "NO RPT NO STUDY WITHOUT FREEDOM," "NO RPT NO BREAD WITHOUT FREEDOM."

MBW/F 0343/68