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MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Philip J. Farley
Department of State

STATE DEPARTMENT COMM.
DIVISION OF
INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

SUBJECT: POLISH INTEREST IN FURTHER COOPERATION WITH THE U.S. IN
THE PEACEFUL APPLICATIONS OF ATOMIC ENERGY

Reference is made to your request for our comments and recommendations with respect to each of the numbered items in the statement prepared by Mr. Wilhelm Billig, Polish Minister of Nuclear Energy Affairs, appended to the Pollard-Chamberlain report, setting forth areas in the atomic energy field in which Poland desires U. S. assistance. You stated that we may assume that the Department of State favors a steady increase in the extent of U. S. cooperation with and assistance to Poland in the field of the peaceful uses of atomic energy, whether directly on a bilateral basis or indirectly through the IAEA.

The list of numbered items referred to above covers (1) long-term training of and/or research by Poles in the U. S., (2) visits by U.S. lecturers to Poland, (3) the procurement of certain equipment, (4) the procurement of certain materials, and (5) the procurement of radioactive substances. In addition, a supplementary list of equipment Poland desires to procure, dated August 23, 1958, was incorporated in the statement of Mr. Billig appended to the Pollard-Chamberlain report.

A. A. Wells, Director
Division of International Affairs

Attachment:
Comments

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THE PROVISIONS OF E.O. 12958, DATED 4/17/93
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Date of Declassification Sept 20, 1996

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Long-Term Training and/or Research

The AEC staff is presently preparing recommendations for the Commission's considerations on the subjects of short and long-term visits to certain AEC facilities by Soviet Bloc personnel under (a) the East-West Exchange Program and (b) the IAEA fellowship program. Adoption of policies by the Commission on these subjects should facilitate arrangements for training of Poles in selected AEC facilities, where desirable, either on a bilateral basis or under IAEA auspices. The U.S. Government's current policy with respect to cooperation with Poland in the atomic energy field will, of course, be reflected in the proposed policies.

Mr. Billig listed four subject areas in which he would like a total of six people trained "by attending courses at appropriate American establishments or by carrying out prescribed scientific work in American laboratories ...". I.e., neutron physics (1 scientist for 1 year), chemistry - extractions with organic solvents (1 scientist for 1 year), electronic instrument construction (2 scientists for 6 months each) and radioisotope applications in diagnostics and therapy and for radiological protection purposes (2 scientists for 6 months each). There are, of course, a number of private universities that offer courses or research opportunities in the areas of interest outlined, some of which are listed in the attached. In addition, certain Commission facilities would offer opportunities for carrying out research work in the areas of interest. In the absence of information on the individuals, their background, objectives, etc. who might be nominated by the Poles, it is difficult for us to be more specific. If the Poles wish to send people to higher educational institutions engaged in atomic energy work we will be glad to assist in any way we can to facilitate their attendance. If they would prefer to send them to Commission facilities, we would be prepared to give such requests careful consideration.

In addition to the above, the Pollard-Chamberlain report states that the Poles would like to send selected men to the U.S. for training in up-to-date methods of uranium prospecting. So far as we are aware, the only course developed for such training on a graduate level is that offered by the Commission, which is for sixteen weeks duration and is conducted in the major mining areas of the West. The policies presently under development, referred to above, may result in such training being possible for the Poles. We shall keep you advised on this point.

Lecturers

With respect to the second area of interest to the Poles, i.e., having U.S. specialists visit Poland for lecture tours on subjects such as radiation chemistry, health protection, and biophysics, we would be prepared to select such specialists for short or long-term visits to Poland. In this connection, we have received your memorandum of May 5th suggesting the possibility of using funds allocated to IES's European regional pool to support lecture tours by noted U.S. nuclear scientists to Poland. A list of prominent scientists is being prepared and will be forwarded to your office in the near future.

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In regard to the materials and equipment listed by the Poles, as you know, with the exception of certain radioactive materials (item 5 in the Poles' list), the export licensing jurisdiction is vested in the Commerce Department. However, we offer the following comments for your information and guidance:

Equipment

In regard to the third category of interest, i.e., certain equipment used in atomic energy, which Poland wishes to purchase, the types of equipment listed by the Poles (radiation detection and related equipment) have recently been removed from the International Atomic Energy List of COCOM. The U.S. Positive List is, as you know, presently under review by the Department of Commerce in light of the COCOM changes. If the Positive List is made compatible with the COCOM changes, the items desired by the Poles could be exported on a routine basis, if desired for peaceful purposes. If retained on the List, it is assumed that the exception procedure established for Poland would be operative, and the Polish requests given sympathetic consideration in accordance with the policy toward Poland as adopted by the NSC.

The above would also apply to the supplementary list of equipment, dated August 26, 1958, listed by Mr. Billig (although the 10 x-ray therapy machines are an exception, since, if they are for medical therapy, they have not been subject to embargo for some years), as well as to the equipment desired by the Poles and listed in despatch 252 of January 19, 1959 from Embassy Warsaw. (The above lists contain items similar to those concerning which Mr. Sterling Cole inquired about following his visit to Poland. Our memo of April 24, 1959 provided comments on the list submitted by Mr. Cole.)

Materials

With respect to the fourth category listed by the Poles, i.e., certain materials and reagents which Poland wishes to purchase, all of the listed items, with the exception of Teflon, have also been taken off the COCOM International Atomic Energy List, and if the Positive List is revised, export could be made routinely if the items are to be used for peaceful purposes only. If not taken off the list, the Polish exception procedure would undoubtedly be used. The same exception procedure could also be used for Teflon in consultation with the Paris COCOM Group. A problem might exist with respect to "ion exchangers: Dowex 50, Amberlite". If the exchangers are desired in small quantities for laboratory use for peaceful purposes, however, it is possible approval would be given for the export to Poland of the materials.

In connection with the fifth category, i.e., procurement by Poland of standard radioactive substances for absolute radioactivity measurements, export of such materials would generally be permitted, with the exception of certain forms of source materials or any special nuclear materials. As you may be aware, since Poland has been taken off the list of Sub-Group A countries, she is now able to order and receive radioisotopes with atomic numbers 1 to

is inclusive from the U.S. on a routine basis.

Films

The Poles also mentioned to Drs. Pollard and Chamberlain their interest in obtaining training films and other audio visual aids which they could use in their own training programs. As you know, there are several unclassified films, including the 45 films shown at the 1958 Geneva Conference, produced by the Commission and its contractors and available through commercial outlets, which would undoubtedly be of interest to the Poles. A list of such films is attached. If the Poles wished to procure any of the films, we would have no objection to their export, although the proposed export of the films would be subject to review by the Department of Commerce. With respect to the 45 Geneva Conference films, a set of these has been furnished Embassies London and Brussels (USIA) for loan to institutions and individuals in Europe. I recommend that the Poles be informed of this and advised that arrangements could undoubtedly be made for them to borrow the films if desired. Additionally, the IAEA has been given a set of the Geneva Conference films, which the Poles might wish to borrow.

4. Partial List of Universities Offering Courses in Areas of Interest

1. Neutron Physics

Duke University, Durham, N. C.

Rice Institute, Houston, Texas

Columbia University, New York, N.Y.

Case Institute of Technology, Cleveland, Ohio

2. Chemistry (Extractions with organic solvents)

University of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona

University of Kentucky, Lexington, Kentucky

Rensselaer Polytech, Troy, New York

3. Construction of Electronic Instruments

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan

4. Application of Radioisotopes in Diagnostics, Therapy and for Radiological Protection Purposes

University of California, Los Angeles, California

Indiana Medical Center, Indianapolis, Indiana

Columbia University, New York, N.Y.

Temple University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania