

At this stage he professed to be not without hope of reaching some satisfactory agreement as regards these cases at least. At a second meeting with Mr. Molotov on March 18th, however, the Ambassador found the Foreign Commissar to be much stiffer in his attitude and no progress was made. The same applied to another meeting which was held on March 22nd, after which the Ambassador concluded no good purpose would be served by further discussion until he was provided with new and more specific instructions from his government. There the matter now rests.

25. In the meantime public discussion of Soviet-Polish relations was stimulated by the appearance of a new newspaper Wolna Polska (Free Poland), published in Moscow in the Polish language. Pravda of March 8th, 1943, had a one-and-a-half column unsigned article reviewing the first number of this newspaper. Included among the articles reviewed were the usual attacks on Polish nobles and landlords, but of the greatest interest is an attack by Wolna Polska on the passivity of the Polish government is constantly preaching to the unfortunate inhabitants of occupied Poland to "wait, wait, wait". In adopting this policy the Polish Government is accused of betraying the interests of the Poles of whom the Red Army is the real savior as of all Slavs. It is of great significance that the most prominent contributor of signed articles to the first and later issues of Wolna Polska is Wanda Wasilewska, the wife of Alexander Korneichuk. Pravda of March 27th contained an article attacking the so-called Polish nobles and entitled "ghosts on the Carpathians.". This article was signed by Ivanenko who is quite unknown, but the style and matter have led to the belief that the author is Korneichuk, who now that he has been appointed Vice-Commissar for Foreign Affairs can no longer write over his own name.

26. In the question of the post-war frontier the position of the Polish Government is strong juridically, but in the game of power politics the Soviet Government holds all the aces. The Soviet-Polish Agreement of July 30th, 1941, specifically repudiates the validity of the Soviet-German Treaties of 1939 respecting territorial changes in Poland. The Poles also seek to find support in the Anglo-Polish Treaty of August 25th, 1939, particularly the secret protocol attached to that treaty. Naturally I have not seen the secret protocol but apparently it guarantees not only the integrity of Poland but also the integrity of Lithuania if attacked by a European power. The United Kingdom attitude, however, is that European power in this context is understood to be Germany. For instance, while the United Kingdom regards Vilna juridically-speaking as part of Poland, they have given no guarantees that it shall be returned to Poland. The United Kingdom Government has been taking the line that the question of the frontier between the Soviet Union and Poland is one which must be settled in the first place between the two governments concerned. Moreover in the present state of world affairs the United Kingdom Government will not take the responsibility of advising the Poles to discuss the frontier question with the Soviet Government, since this is a question of such vital importance to the Polish Government that they must decide it for themselves. The United States Ambassador at Moscow told the British Ambassador he believed all his government would to at the moment would be to express regret at the friction which had arisen between two of the United Nations. In general both British and United States representatives are taking care not to encourage the Poles to believe that they can count too much on allied support in their frontier dispute with the Soviet Union, although great sympathy naturally is felt for the difficulties of the Poles in dealing with the problems of their citizens in the Soviet Union.

27. One of the Counsellors and certain other members of the Polish Embassy hold the view that the Polish Government may be making a mistake in declining to discuss the frontier question at this stage. They believe that the Soviet Government is genuinely anxious to reach