

TRYBUNA LUDU REPORTS, COMMENTS ON REAGAN IN BERLIN

Demonstration Turns to 'Riots'

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[PAP West Berlin report: "Reagan Instructs and Accuses"]

[Text] PAP Correspondent Jerzy Rasala reports: In his 12 June West Berlin speech President Ronald Reagan said that the "German question is open" and appealed for the removal of the "Berlin Wall." He made his bellicose speech during his 5-hour visit, which was preceded by a large-scale demonstration against him in a West Berlin suburb.

This demonstration in protest against the Reagan administration's foreign policy -- against the forced arms race, the Star Wars program, the intensification of tension in the Middle East and the Persian Gulf, and the interference in Nicaragua's affairs -- was attended on Thursday evening by several thousand persons who answered the appeal of over 100 political and social organizations. After midnight this demonstration turned into street riots. As a result, 77 persons were detained and, according to the authorities, 67 policemen were injured during clashes.

During his visit R. Reagan met with FRG President Richard von Weizsaecker in his so-called West Berlin residence. This defied the 1971 four-power accord on West Berlin, which states that West Berlin is not part of the FRG and that Bonn authorities have no right to carry out any state functions in West Berlin.

The main item of the program was the U.S. President's speech made to several thousand invited guests from a raised platform erected at the Brandenburg Gate in the vicinity of the former Reichstag, which is close to the border of the GDR capital. The speech was anticommunist, anti-Soviet, and anti-GDR in tone and was full of instructions for and accusations against the socialist countries.

The Berlin Wall, for the removal of which Reagan appealed, is part of the system that safeguards the GDR border. It was built in 1961 after a series of anti-GDR measures had been taken from West Berlin territory.

The U.S. President clearly reaffirmed he does not like the postwar political-territorial realities in Europe and declared that he regarded the "German question" as "open." He spoke of the threat of "Soviet expansion" and favored U.S. policy from strength and the NATO doctrine of deterrence. He also gave reasons for the "Star Wars" program, asserting that it is a "research project" that seeks to "increase the security of Europe and the entire world." R. Reagan stated that a chance has now appeared for "not only curbing increases in armaments, but also for eliminating an entire class of missiles." (He meant medium-range missiles.) However, despite the facts he saw the reason for this chance in the West's "policy of strength."

In connection with his visit extraordinary security arrangements were put into effect in West Berlin. Over 10,000 policemen were mobilized and another 1,000 were imported from the FRG. Security forces used armored cars, water cannons, and other special equipment. All civil air traffic over West Berlin was suspended, and only police and U.S. military helicopters were in the air all the time. The area of the city visited by the President was closed to automobile traffic, and this caused enormous traffic chaos. Barbed wire obstacles were erected near the old Reichstag building.