

areas were on the territory of Prussia. The state revenues of Prussia amounted to 4,2 milliards of Marks in 1913, the revenues of the other states jointly 2,5 milliards, the revenues of the Reich only 4,1 milliards.

On the strength of the Versailles Treaty of 1919 only Prussia as well as the Reich itself (i. e. Alsace-Lorraine which had been administered directly by the Reich) suffered territorial losses. Thanks to nazi annexations Prussia recovered only a small fraction of territories she had lost in 1919. The former Prussian provinces of "West-Prussia" and Poznań, annexed by Hitler in 1939 after his conquest of Poland, as well as other annexed territories (Austria and the Sudetenland) were administered directly by Reich authorities and divided into "Reich counties" (Reichsgaue).

Sovereign rights of the states composing the Reich were strongly limited by the Weimar Constitution of 1919. On the other hand no division of Prussia into smaller units was carried out so that her preponderance was maintained. It was of great importance that the Reich had no police force that sphere belonging to the competence of the Länder. On July 20, 1932 Reich chancellor Papen made a coup d'état grasping the government power in Prussia and thus her police force. This made it easier for the nazis to get the Prussian police in their hands next year. A nazi Goering was appointed Prussian minister of the interior and then prime minister and he created the Gestapo in April, 1933. Another nazi Himmler took over the police power in the other Länder. In April, 1934, Goering had to yield his Prussian Gestapo to Himmler but it was not until 1936 that a uniform German police was created for the first time.

Hitler did not abolish the Länder governments but transformed them into mere organs of the Reich government. At the same time he appointed Reich lieutenants (Reichsstatthalter) in each of them. Beside these two branches of Reich authority in the Länder much power belonged to heads of party districts (Gauleiter). Some of them were appointed Reich lieutenants, but not all of them because there were more party districts (32) than Länder (15). All of this amounted to chaos. Essential power belonged to a fourth factor. It was the police which became almost identical with the SS. The superiority of the SS over the wider nazi party or NSDAP resulted from its strict racial exclusivity, realizing the Hitler ideal in the highest degree.

JÓZEF KONIECZNY

INFORMATION ON POLAND IN THE GERMAN FEDERAL REPUBLIC

Mutual relations of two nations, especially of two bordering nations, are assumed to be determined not only by international policy; opinions and attitudes of the communities have also their significance. Social attitudes and the public opinion depend on broad information, not only transmitted by mass communication means, but also by other channels. Deliberate moulding of public opinion, i. e. propaganda, is closely associated with information — the latter being a condition sine qua non of propaganda. Nevertheless, there is a reversed correlation in that propaganda renders possible acceptance and comprehension of information. Moreover, there is an interdependence between propaganda and upbringing, especially tuition, which mainly consists in transmission of information. Examples from German textbooks prove that even in disciplines not based on transmission of information such as e. g. mathematics, tuition can also be utilized for propaganda

against a neighbouring nation. There also exists a mutual dependence between information and ideology. On the assumption of the Polish marxist sociology considering as the characteristic feature of ideology "its functional subservience in respect to the group of which it is a correlate", ideology is not only formed by sentences which owe their "ideology" to the semantic meaning; but also by sentences which perform ideological functions and which may represent true or even scientific judgements. There are many cases of using in west-German political journalism, in historiography and in tuition, of both types of sentences, which carry a weight of ideology concerning Polish-German relations. On the one hand, information is a mean for transmitting to a broad audience ideological sentences; and on the other — of notions fulfilling ideological functions. The reversed correlation is evident in that ideologically moulded consciousness of the recipient of information determines his perception. The particular role of information results from the fact that affecting the public opinion is a process under close control — not only of the official and professional centres of information, but also, and perhaps in the first place, by so called groups of interest. Different are the methods by which the groups of interest influence the emission of information. In spite of this however, their activities are to a certain degree obliged to pay heed to the actual reality represented by the community with which the information is concerned.