

World

Blamed for social, economic problems

Former Polish officials to go on trial

United Press International
WARSAW, Poland — Former Polish officials who have been blamed for the nation's lingering social and economic crisis will go on trial soon, a high-ranking Communist Party member told a meeting of the party Central Committee Thursday.

At the same time, Interior Minister Gen. Czeslaw Kiszczak warned that Poland was witness-

ing a sharp, merciless political struggle in which adversaries were trying to weaken and take control of the country.

The warning came as Solidarity threatened a nationwide newspaper, radio and television strike for Oct. 1 and Moscow accused the independent labor federation of seeking to seize power in order to restore capitalism.

Politburo member Kazimierz

Barcikowski, in a speech reported by the official news agency PAP, said prosecutors had been carrying out careful investigations and "those responsible for the crisis will go on trial soon."

The text of Barcikowski's speech was not immediately available, and the summary mentioned no names. However, legal action was begun during the summer against ousted Prime Minister Piotr Jaroszewicz and other former officials who served during the 10-year regime of party chief Edward Gierek.

PAP said Barcikowski, also declared a necessity for "effective

counteractions against the extremist wings in Solidarity."

In a speech delivered during the first session of the Central committee meeting Wednesday, party official Edward Skrzypczyk told the assembly that government plans for economic reform were a gamble that will bring unemployment and bankrupt plants across the country.

Skrzypczyk called government's plans for economic reform next year a "poker game," and warned, "in the first stage of economic reform there will be unemployment, a mess in material supplies and bankruptcy of the industrial

plants."

In Moscow, a leading Soviet newspaper accused Solidarity of undermining the socialist system in Poland with strikes and said it was seeking to "bring down the state system" to restore capitalism in the Warsaw Pact nation.

The story, published by the Soviet labor union newspaper Trud, was distributed early Thursday by the Tass news agency, indicating it had the support of the Soviet leadership.

Trud said Solidarity exposed its "counter-revolutionary, anti-socialist character" in a charter of proposed new rules to be adopted

at the 10-million member labor federation's first national convention this weekend.

"As chief vehicle for blackmailing and pressuring the party and state organs, the authors of the document have chosen strikes which, as is shown by practice, have disorganized the economy and brought the nation ... to a critical point," Trud said.

"Using the policy of strikes, the anti-socialist elements from Solidarity are aiming at undermining the socialist foundation and, in the final analysis, at restoring capitalism in Poland."

The Soviet attack came as Solidarity's national coordinating commission said it would nationwide newspaper, radio, television strike Oct. 1. The printers were paid for two days they refused to work during nationwide newspaper strike month.

Solidarity also threatened ban reporters of state television and radio from their national convention beginning in Gdansk Saturday unless the government surrendered editorial control coverage of the three-day convention.

Iran strikes back against dissidents

United Press International
Revolutionary Guards killed seven dissidents in an eight-hour

battle in Tehran that ended Thursday and 55 more people were reported executed.

Iranian television said 55 persons had been executed in the aftermath of the assassinations of two high Iranian officials last weekend. It brought to 659 the number of executions of political dissidents since the ouster of President Abolhasan-Bani-Sadr in June.

Tehran Radio monitored in Ankara said three other dissidents were arrested in the shootout — the first major outbreak of fighting in Tehran since President Mohammed Ali Rajai and Prime Minister Mohammed Javad Bahonar were killed in a bomb blast Sunday.

Revolutionary guards killed seven "hypocrites," the official term for Mojahideen Khala guerrillas, in a shootout that began in a south Tehran street Wednesday night and ended early Thursday, Tehran Radio said.

The three arrested included "a woman and a girl." They were picked up when the guards captured a house being used as a Mojahideen base, the radio said. It said the guards discovered maps of the prime minister's office, where Rajai and Bahonar were assassinated.

The Iranian parliament Wednesday gave the cabinet of new Prime Minister Ayatollah Mohammed Reza Mahdavi-Kani a quick vote of confidence with 170

voting in favor and only 8 either opposing or abstaining.

In Paris, a spokesman for the Mojahideen guerrillas battling the Islamic regime confirmed that a top Palestine Liberation Organization official met with Mojahideen leader Massoud Rajavi. The PLO denied Tuesday that any such meeting took place.

Reports of contacts between the PLO, which aided Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini's rise to power in 1979, and Khomeini's foes followed recent allegations that Israel had supplied Tehran with weapons needed in the war with Iraq. Iran has denied getting any arms from Israel.

Mahdavi-Kani, in a statement issued after he presented the cabinet today, said foreign hands were involved in the assassinations of Rajai and Bahonar. He did not elaborate on his charge. He also denied reports that the killings were part of an internal power struggle between Islamic clergy officials.

Mahdavi-Kani, who as head of the interior ministry showed little patience with dissent, said soon after the parliament approved his selection as the new prime minister that "fifth columnists" were trying to undermine the Islamic regime.

"Rumors have been spread accusing some (Islamic regime) fi-

gures of involvement in this incident," the prime minister said.

"The enemy is trying to destroy in various ways — by assassinations and shaking public confidence."

"The people must be aware of these rumors have been spread by the fifth columnists," he said, "suspicions of an 'inside job' pressed as soon as Sunday's news went off."

Prime Minister Bahonar President Rajai were killed in a firebomb that exploded while two men were meeting inside a heavily guarded prime minister's office.

Guards reportedly searched everyone entering the building and scoured all rooms before meetings convened, raising questions how a bomb could have been placed in the same room as the highest elected officials in Iran.

Mahdavi-Kani said the investigation into the killings has "a good headway" and "what I can say now is that foreign agents in Tehran have a hand in this. But I can't give details as this is a security matter."

As interior minister and director of the local revolutionary councils that executed opponents of the regime, Mahdavi-Kani has a reputation for being a hard-liner.

But despite fears for the estimated 4,000 dissidents since the clergy overthrew the President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr, there have been no reports of arrests in Tehran since the election.

However, Tehran Radio Wednesday night 200 dissidents were arrested in the northern town of Amol during a two-month period and 11 people arrested in Borujerd, in southern Iran. Both appeared to be reports on the continuing crackdown in the provinces.

A spokesman for the Revolutionary Guard, the largest force outside the Islamic forces, denied that it was responsible for protecting the prime minister's office when the blast place Sunday.

He said the guard also has a role in protecting the ruling Islamic Republic Party headquarters where 74 Islamic officials died in a devastating bomb blast June 20.

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