

# DEATHS REPORTED

## Throng Attacks Party Headquarters and Other Buildings

By Reuters.

WARSAW, June 28—Rioting burst out today in Poznan. There was firing in the streets and tanks were called into the city.

Crowds of rioters attacked the headquarters of the Polish United Workers (Communist) party and other public buildings, set fire to a prison and surged on to police headquarters, reliable sources here reported. Shots were fired as rioters gathered outside the police building.

[According to The Associated Press, a Danish business man returning from Poznan to Copenhagen said Polish troops had killed "scores of persons." The United Press quoted a British traveler who had left Poznan as having said at least twenty-two persons were known dead in the rioting.]

Street cars were overturned and a Soviet flag was torn down.

Witnesses returning here from Poznan said they had heard shots and seen columns of marching demonstrators in the streets. They also saw tanks in the city's main square, where the crowd first gathered about 8 A. M., and saw other tanks moving into the city.

The rioting lasted at least into the early afternoon, when tanks moved into the main square. But P. A. P., the Polish news agency, reported tonight that the situation now was under control.

### Foreign Agents Blamed

An official statement issued by P. A. P. blamed "imperialist agents" and "underground reactionaries" for the outbreak and said those responsible would be punished "with all the severity of the law." It called for "special vigilance" against "anti-state outbursts inspired by the enemies of People's Poland."

Premier Jozef Cyrankiewicz and Government and Communist party officials left for Poznan, P. A. P. said.

Poznan, known in German as Posen, is one of Poland's largest cities, with a population of more than 300,000.

Western eyewitnesses, present in the city for a big international trade fair now being held there, reported having seen crowds of workers marching through the streets carrying Polish flags and chanting "We want bread." Workers from the Stalin Locomotive Plant were understood to have sparked the demonstrations.

The eyewitnesses also said they had heard machine-gun fire in the city and seen tanks rumbling through the streets. One witness said that despite this the demonstrators he had seen "seemed quite happy."

A British business man who was in Poznan today said tonight:

"We saw crowds of workmen, apparently steelworkers, in overalls marching in an orderly

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Associated Press Radiophoto

**TANKS USED IN POLISH RIOT:** Demonstrators surround one of the tanks that aided troops in quelling outbreak in Poznan. The headquarters of Polish United Workers (Communist) party and other buildings were attacked.

## *Poles in Poznan in Anti-Red Riot; Troops and Tanks Quell Revolt*

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manner through the streets.

"They carried in front of them a large Polish flag. They had placards too. They were chanting something. I was told it was 'We want bread.'"

"The demonstration appeared to be organized because most of the shops were closed with their shutters down and all the trams had stopped and their drivers had left them.

"It was impossible to get a taxi. Vehicles which tried to get through were blocked by the crowds.

"An English woman in a Polish car with a Polish driver told me that her car was nearly turned over. Her driver explained to the men surrounding her that she was a foreign diplomat and they allowed her to go on.

"Later I heard a bit of individual shooting, not sustained shooting but two or three shots at a time, as if shots were being fired over the heads of a crowd.

"I also heard what was obviously a light machine-gun. By midday there were tanks in front of the National Bank of Poland. Troops were gathered around. Other tanks could be heard rumbling in the distance. Everyone, however, seemed quite happy.

"When we left for the airport to catch our plane to Warsaw, we were taken right around the outskirts of the city. We passed about twelve tanks coming into the town."

The businessman who described these events was Kenneth G. Treherne, of the Dominions Export Company, London.

### **Poles Issue Communiqué**

A communiqué titled "Events in Poznan" was published by P. A. P. tonight. It said:

"Serious disturbances occurred today in the town of Poznan.

"For some time now imperialist agents and the reactionary underground have been trying to utilize the economic difficulty and grievances in certain work establishments in Poznan to provoke outbursts against the people's power.

"It is no accident that the enemy has chosen Poznan as the scene of provocation at a time when the international fair is being held there. The point was to cast a shadow on the good name of People's Poland and to hamper the promotion of our peaceful international cooperation.

"The enemy agents succeeded today in provoking street riots. Certain public buildings were attacked and this led to victims.

"Relying on the responsible part of the working class, the authorities have mastered the situation and restored order in the town.

"Representatives of the Government and of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers party with Premier Jozef Cyrankiewicz have left for the scene of the disturbances. Those responsible for the disturbances, which bore the imprint of a large-scale and carefully prepared provocative and diversionary action, will be punished with all the severity of the law.

"In view of the events in Poznan the special vigilance of all working people and of all the patriotic forces of the nation is needed in face of any attempt at anti-state outbursts inspired by the enemies of People's Poland.

"The provocation in Poznan was staged by enemies of our country at a time when the greatest concern of the party and the Government is to eliminate the grievances of the working people and to democratize our country. The awareness of this fact should reach every honest man in Poland, every patriot.

"The Government and the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers party are convinced that every attempt to provoke disturbances and outbursts against the people's power will meet with the proper rebuff

of all working peoples, of all citizens who value the good of the country."

The P. A. P. statement was issued in English.