

WIKTOR ŚWIETLIK

A hundred-year-old journey of Kazimierz Mijal

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Today, Kazimierz Mijal, former head of the office of Bolesław Bierut, will be buried, a figure known only to people who are very interested in the history of the Polish People's Republic. Besides, they are also foggy, because Mijal did not have a biography or a larger study devoted to himself, at most a few biographical notes. A considerable oversight, because although he was perhaps not the most important figure in the history of the last system, he can successfully fight for the first place in the ranking for the most colourful Polish communist.

Mijal was a communist until the end. Historian, Dr. Piotr Gontarczyk supposes that the last one on the Vistula. When a few years ago he came to Mijal's apartment and talked for several hours, the aged gentleman was able to efficiently answer each question with a quote from Marx or an interpretation of Marxist doctrine. The young man scrupulously noted, and the knowledge contained in his questions about the Polish United Workers' Party and the past of Polish communism made such an impression on the old idealist that he offered him a joint reconstruction of the Communist Party of Poland. Gontarczyk refused culturally.

In turn, journalist Robert Mazurek interviewed Mijal a decade ago for the now defunct weekly "New State". Kazimierz Mijal addressed Mazurek as comrade. And he firmly believed that Marxist-Leninist doctrine adapts well to new times. He pointed out that communism would win because Internet users, when asked by the British BBC, honoured the title of Thinker of the Millennium, not Saint Tomasz or Wolter, but Marx. And, as he emphasized, "fools don't work on this internet."

Because Mijal hard communism never betrayed. It was the Polish People's Republic, Gomułka and his successors who betrayed Mijal. And in his opinion the present times are only a transitional period. In an interview with Mazurek, he said: - It is said that communism lost, did not pass the exam, that Marxism on the shelves of history and other such nonsense, theoretical nonsense! In fact, there is a revolution under the skin, the explosion is inevitable. Capitalism is on its way to falling and that is beyond doubt for me. And communism will prevail.

Mijal's fight for the victory of communism began in the village of Wilki near Grójec, at a time when the world was experiencing the development of wireless telegraph, and the Wright brothers found more and more followers. But the Mijala family did not live by these sensations. The parents were illiterate and very poor, but very prolific. Mijal was their 18th child. The then hated bourgeois Republic of Poland gave the young, talented Kazimierz quite a good social promotion. He graduated and passed the high school diploma, which at that time meant more than a university degree today. He had a good job at the savings bank, where he met his wife - a lady from a good family, a young communist painter Jadwiga Gniew-kowska, later Mijal. He began evening studies, which he would have finished had it not been for the outbreak of war.

During the war he became involved in underground communist activities. And he began to educate in the writings of the classics of Marx, Engels, and Lenin. He met the whole company from the so-called "the first initiative group" dropped on parachutes to create a communist underground - Marcei Nowotka, Paweł Finder, and Bolesław Mołojc. As well as his future boss Bolesław Bierut and the "national" communist and future enemy Władysław Gomułka. Communist grid meetings were held at the home of Jadwiga Mijal's mother. When in 1944 new power was installed in Poland, Mijal became the president of Łódź. He allegedly saved Piotrkowska Street, which is the backbone of the city, from being renamed Stalin. He manipulated the name Generalissimo a smaller street called Główna. And Łódź owes this anecdote about a brave conductor who shouted at passengers at the bus stop: "Get off, Stalin's main".

But Mijal's other output was not so nice. In the years 1947-1950 he was the head of the Chancellery of President Bolesław Bierut, and then - in the period of the bloodiest Stalinism - the head of the Office of the Council of Ministers. It was his signature that appeared under the document under which Primate Stefan Wyszyński was imprisoned, moreover in violation of the PRL law.

If you consider a large group of communists concrete, then Mijal was a titan, diamond communist - with him they were mollusks. Until the end of his life, he valued Stalin, defended collectivization, the fight against the kulak, and justified purges. And the thaw of 1956 was a defeat for him and the beginning of betrayal. The Soviet command - he argued - hesitated in the face of danger and when the Great Commander ran out, he was unable to make firm decisions. And Lenin wrote that "there is no revolution without firing squads."

At the same time, Mijal began attacking Gomułka more and more strongly. He published brochures in which he criticized the betrayal of ideology. As Dr. Gontarczyk wrote in the Rzeczpospolita daily, Mijal's book "In the fight for victory, passivity and silence is loss" was published in 10,000 copies and had a lot of hype. It was sponsored and printed by Enver Hodja - the leader of Albania, the last truly communist country in Europe, who was constantly preparing to clash with the rest of the continent. Thanks to Albanian money, Mijal began to gather a group of followers around him.

Gomułka tolerated the exotic oppositionist for a relatively long time, but in the end the measure changed, Mijal lost his then job at the bank, and the security service began to revolve around his group. In response, the missals went underground to the whole. They founded the illegal Communist Party of Poland, which was to oppose real communism to the PUWP procrastinators. They had their own Central Committee and Political Bureau. They began to issue leaflets. Anti-Semitic themes played an increasingly important role in their propaganda, which, incidentally, partly co-operated with the views of the party group of Natolinians, and later "partisans" of General Mieczysław Moczar. Years later, Mijal himself could not get over that Robert Mazurek talking to him considers him anti-Semitic. From the point of view of Marxist science, it was impossible: - I am a Marxist, and according to Marxism, all nations are equal, including the Jewish people. I am only an opponent of the Jewish bourgeoisie - he explained.

"Wiesław" Gomułka delayed the decision to arrest Mijal, because many important companions were hanging around him, and their closure would be badly received by the party apparatus. In the end he passed him. In February 1966, with an Albanian diplomatic passport in his hand, he left alone, without family, to Tirana. He became a hero of the propaganda of Hodha and also the People's Republic of China. Mijal finally found himself in a communist paradise led in accordance with the instructions of Marx - Lenin, but the fate of Polish comrades did not cease to be foreign to him. He began the struggle of exile and then became truly known. Not only did he keep in touch with his former KPP party through Albanian intelligence, which in fact became a branch of the Sino-Albanian agency, he not only began publishing the illegal newspaper "Red Banner", but broadcast programs to Poland from Albanian Radio Tirana. As columnist Antoni Zambrowski recalled, Mijal tried to confuse the party ranks by providing false information, e.g. he lied that the wife of the Marshal of the People's Republic of Poland Marian Spychalski went to relatives in Israel, imputing her Jewish origin.

Mijal's party, although it managed to build a network in several cities, was infiltrated and broken up within a few years. And he began to come into conflict with also departing from the principles of Marxism-Leninism companions from Tirana. In search of true communism in 1977 he went to China, which was recently orphaned by comrade Mao. For a moment he felt like a fish in the water there, but the next comrades without leadership were unable to maintain the ideological line and began to think about flirting with rotten capitalism.

Mijal was in the West, and then in 1983 he returned to Poland - he saw his family for the first time in 17 years. He used the diplomatic passport of one of the western countries. He brought a lot of American money with him. With their help, he again began the fight for communism. He condemned the army firing at the workers, but also the "reactionary" Solidarity. He was hiding and recreating his underground organization. In November 1984 a security service found him thanks to a denunciation. He was in detention for several months, but Jaruzelski's people, just like Gomułka, did not know what to do with the old communist. Mijal in an interview with Mazurek claimed that there was a concept to frame him in the murder of priest Popieluszko. But eventually they let him go. And he continued his fight for true communism without deviations. Czesław Kiszczak's esques tried to convince him that what he did threatens him with imprisonment, that he harms communism. But Mijal, 80, was adamant and responded with Marx.

At the Round Table and in June 1989, in front of Mijal, the final betrayal took place, which the Polish United Workers' Party was heading towards from 1956. To a large extent, this happened under the influence of Zionists. Jaruzelski, Rakowski and others should pay their heads for it.

Already after 1989, Mijal's radical views, including their anti-Semitic features, attracted marginal organizations - the extreme left and the right. He was an avid opponent of NATO and the EU. He tried to reactivate his KPP, rubbed against various environments, but everywhere he came across traitors to the doctrine which he contained in many volumes of Marx, Engels and Lenin was always at hand and knew almost by heart. Until his last days, he said he believed that capitalism would go bankrupt and revolution would engulf the world again.

Although Kazimierz Mijal was not convinced of the sufficient ideological beliefs of his children, he would probably be very pleased with the obituary, which in Gazeta Wyborcza gave his sons and grandchildren: "After a long colourful life, fulfilled in the struggle for the realization of the ideals of communism, equality and the development of society, which today does not even resemble the one in which he was born, fell asleep in peace and expecting the 100th anniversary of his birth."

In the "long and colourful" struggle of Kazimierz Mijal for communist ideals, the unknown is equally interesting. Whence coming back to Poland in 1983, Mijal had dollars with him? He himself claimed that he was helped by Western communist parties, probably Maoist, strong especially in the Benelux countries. But where did Mijal get a Western diplomatic passport? Did the 100-year journey in search of true Marxism of Kazimierz Mijal have a double bottom? Doctor Gontarczyk found no answers in Polish archives. Kazimierz Mijal took her with him to a non-existent hell or heaven, carrying the principles of true, uncontaminated scientific Marxism - Leninism.