

Letter to the Editor

I am sorry, but I have to raise an alarm, the more so as I have been a subscriber to the “Chronicles” since 1985 and know full well what to expect and require from the magazine. Bluntly put, what the heck has made you publish an unbearably long piece on an obscure and mediocre person who had been commander-in-chief of the Polish armed forces for decades and later ran Polish Communist Party and Poland for almost a decade, all this in Poland under Soviet dominance? While it is true that being a viceroy of a country, in this case the country from afar, is not an easy enterprise for that country’s citizen – he can prove a cynical traitor or one with some or many qualms – it is not enough to deserve attention of a reader of the magazine that *has been at the forefront of examining the prevailing currents of both politics and a civil society in Western Civilization* (to quote from its mission statement). Perhaps, if in Mr. Jaruzelski’s lifetime one could find anything heroic, worth an absorbing epic film, he would be worth a piece. But it isn’t the case. Should I then believe that the “Chronicles” readership is interested in occasionally obtaining articles on Soviet viceroys in Central and Eastern Europe? I bet nobody is, by the way me included, unless something really revealing can one find in such an article.

Indeed, the article’s topic is not only hardly interesting to the readers, it is also of unacceptably poor quality. Ta name Mr. Jaruzelski dictator implies that the author does [not] understand the term. To equate to some extent Mr. Jaruzelski with Cardinal Wyszynski disqualifies the author.

Leopold Tyrmand would turn in his grave if he read the article.

Sincerely,
Jacek Koronacki, Professor
Warsaw, Poland