INTRODUCTION

The present work, a sequel to the author's First year Polish, is intended for use in the late second through third year of language study. Tapes and computer drills presently being prepared make this text particularly well suited for independent study. Upon completing this course, the student should have a good control of standard colloquial Polish, a broad knowledge of common Polish slang and idioms, and the ability to read with confidence the language of Polish journalism and scholarly prose. Additionally, from the selection of conversations and readings, the student will have built up a broad store of knowledge about contemporary Polish culture and customs in such areas as travel, shopping, dating, telephone use, cuisine, manners, apartment living and others. This textbook assumes on the part of the user a basic knowledge of Polish inflectional morphology. An extensive grammatical appendix is included at the end of the book, so that grammatical review may be incorporated into the study plan wherever necessary.

A number of people have contributed generously of time and expertise to help make this book possible. They are listed here in chronological order of participation. Barbara Nykiel of Lublin, now of Binghamton, N.Y., read the early versions of most conversations and contributed greatly to their selection and idiomaticity. Jolanta Szpyra of Lublin read and commented copiously on most conversations, readings, and grammatical explanations. She contributed several conversations, the text on shopping, and was my primary consultant on matters relating to slang and first names. Stefan Grzybowski of Bydgoszcz was my main consultant on medical care and geographical terminology. The hand of Maria Sledzinska of Bydgoszcz is evident throughout. Ms. Sledzinska read most conversations and texts and supplied many illustrations of grammatical points. She contributed the reading on hitchhiking and thoroughly revised several of the other readings. Wiesław Oleksy of Bydgoszcz helped record most of the conversations and readings and, while doing so, contributed to their stylistic unity. Additionally, Mr. Oleksy was the main consultant on Polish cuisine. Roza Vobozil of Lodz read a nearly complete version of the manuscript, including the grammatical appendix, spotting important errors and oversights. In addition, Ms. Vobozil contributed the text on the educational system. Finally, Grazyna Lipska of Warsaw, now of Pittsburgh, used early versions of most of these lessons in her second-year Polish classes at the University of Pittsburgh and offered many suggestions for improvement. Ms. Lipska also read the computer printout of the entire text before it was submitted to the printer, spotting a number of last-minute errors, both typographical and substantive. The author takes full responsibility for all mistakes and oversights that have eluded this diligent and skilled team of linguistic and cultural consultants.
I owe special debts of gratitude to the following people: to Maria Staszewska-Wieczorek of Bydgoszcz for helping me secure illustrative photographic material; to Zbigniew Jujka of Gdansk for permission to use his comic illustrations; and to Magdalena Gilinsky of the American Folklife Center of the Smithsonian Institute for designing the paper-cut that serves as cover illustration to this book. To all the above persons, and to any I have inadvertently neglected to mention, I express my heartfelt thanks.

This book was composed on a Commodore 64 microcomputer, using the REDAKTOREK Slavic-language text-editing program developed jointly by the University of Pittsburgh and K & S Enterprises of Pittsburgh. A special commendation to Dawn Speer of K & S for her boundless patience in seeing this difficult job of typesetting through to the end.