

GRS 200

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FM WARSAW 051145Z MAR

TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 161 OF 5 MAR

INFO IMMEDIATE MOSCOW

INFO ROUTINE EAST BERLIN PRAGUE PARIS BONN WASHINGTON

UKDEL NATO THE HAGUE MODUK

SAVING TO SOFIA BUDAPEST BUCHAREST BELGRADE HELSINKI

STOCKHOLM UKMIS NEW YORK UKREP BRUSSELS

ms

POLISH SOVIET MEETING

1. MIFT CONTAINS THE TEXT OF PAP'S ACCOUNT OF YESTERDAY'S MEETING BETWEEN THE POLISH AND SOVIET LEADERSHIPS.
2. SEEN FROM WARSAW, THE LANGUAGE USED TO DESCRIBE BOTH THE POLISH CRISIS AND THE STEPS NECESSARY FOR ITS RESOLUTION HAS BECOME NOTICEABLY MORE EXTREME THAN THAT USED AFTER THE DECEMBER SUMMIT (MOSCOW TWLNO 771 OF 6 DECEMBER). THE DILEMMA IN WHICH THE POLISH LEADERSHIP IS PLACED CAN ONLY BE MORE ACUTE AS THE RESULT OF THE MEETING. IT IS HARD TO SEE HOW KANIA AND JARUZELSKI CAN RECONCILE THEIR RECENTLY -PROCLAIMED POLICY OF CONCILIATION WITH UNDERTAKINGS TO QUOTE REVERSE THE COURSE OF EVENTS UNQUOTE AND ACHIEVE A QUOTE RADICAL UNQUOTE RESTORATION TO HEALTH OF THE COUNTRY.
3. A MEMBER OF CHANCERY WHO VISITED PLOCK YESTERDAY FOUND THE LOCAL SOLIDARITY PREPARING TO PROCLAIM READINESS TO STRIKE. THEIR GRIEVANCE WAS THE LACK OF PROGRESS OVER CENSORSHIP. TAKEN WITH UNCONFIRMED REPORTS THAT LODZ IS ALSO TENSE AND READY TO STRIKE, THE PLOCK EXAMPLE INDICATES THAT THE PRESENT TRUCE IS VERY FRAGILE. THE POLISH AUTHORITIES CAN HAVE LITTLE HOPE OF COMPLYING WITH THEIR MOSCOW UNDERTAKINGS WITHOUT PROVOKING VERY SERIOUS TROUBLE IN THE COUNTRY.

FCO PLEASE PASS ALL SAVING ADDRESSEES.

PRIDHAM

[COPIES SENT TO NO 10 DOWNING STREET]

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[PASSED AS REQUESTED]