

POLAND: ADVANCE COPIES

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MR FERGUSSON  
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GRS 550

RESTRICTED

FM WARSAW 271430Z MAR

TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TELEGRAM NUMBER 225 OF 27 MAR

INFO IMMEDIATE ISLAMABAD ( FOR PRIVATE SECRETARY)

INFO ROUTINE MOSCOW EAST BERLIN PRAGUE PARIS BONN WASHINGTON

UKDEL NATO THE HAGUE MODUK

SAVING TO SOFIA BUDAPEST BUCHAREST BELGRADE HELSINKI STOCKHOLM  
UKMIS NEW YORK UKREP BRUSSELS

**WARNING STRIKE**

1. TODAY'S 4-HOUR WARNING STRIKE SEEMS TO HAVE GAINED, AT LEAST IN WARSAW, AN ALMOST 100% TURN OUT. IN THE CAPITAL, ALL PUBLIC TRANSPORT, SHOPS AND EVEN BANKS WERE AT A STANDSTILL. THERE WERE WIDESPREAD DISPLAYS OF POLISH FLAGS DEMONSTRATING SUPPORT FOR SOLIDARITY. AND EVEN AT INSTITUTIONS SUCH AS THE BANK HANDLOWY, WHO CONTINUED TRADING, EMPLOYEES WORE SOLIDARITY BADGES. WE HAVE NO REASON TO DOUBT THAT THIS RESPONSE HAS BEEN NATIONWIDE.

2. YESTERDAY'S TALKS BETWEEN RAKOWSKI AND WALESIA WERE POSTPONED UNTIL TODAY. THERE WAS NO OFFICIAL EXPLANATION FOR THIS, BUT THE SUGGESTION THAT THE GOVERNMENT WAS UNABLE TO GET ITS ACT TOGETHER SEEMS CONVINCING.

IMMEDIATE

ADVANCE COPY

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TO GET ITS ACT TOGETHER SEEMS CONVINCING.

3. YESTERDAY THE PRESIDENT OF THE WRN IN BYDGOSZCZ RESIGNED. HE WAS REPLACED BY GENERAL KAMINSKI, DEPUTY COMMANDER OF THE POMERANIAN MILITARY DISTRICT. WHILST THE POST IS LARGELY A REPRESENTATIONAL ONE, IT IS HARD TO SEE HOW THE AVERAGE POLE CAN AVOID ASSOCIATING THE APPOINTMENT WITH A "CREEPING" MILITARY TAKEOVER.

4. THE PRIME MINISTER YESTERDAY RECEIVED THE REPORT OF BAFIA'S COMMISSION ON THE BYDGOSZCZ INCIDENT. IT WILL BE PUBLISHED TOMORROW. JARUSELSKI ALSO MET WYSZYNSKI YESTERDAY. THEY NOTED THAT IT WAS URGENTLY NECESSARY TO HAVE A FULL AND OBJECTIVE ACCOUNT OF EVENTS AT BYDGOSZCZ. MEANWHILE, KANIA MET YESTERDAY, IN THE COMPANY OF OLSZOWSKI, SENIOR EDITORS FROM THE PRESS AND TELEVISION AND LATER REPRESENTATIVES OF SCIENCE AND CULTURE.

5. IT SEEMS LIKELY THAT JARUZELSKI'S MEETING WITH THE PRIMATE WAS AN EMERGENCY ONE, DESIGNED TO REACH A COMMON LINE ON THE RECENT TROUBLES. BUT THE GOVERNMENT MAY NOT BE ABLE TO PERSUADE WYSZYNSKI TO REPEAT HIS APPEAL FOR PEACE OF LAST SUMMER. THE MEETING BETWEEN KANIA AND THE EDITORS WAS REPORTED TO HAVE BEEN TO DISCUSS THE TASKS OF THE PRESS IN THE PRESENT SITUATION, IE, TO GIVE THEM THEIR LINE.

6. SEEN FROM HERE, SUNDAY'S PLENUM IS CRUCIAL. IT IS UNLIKELY THAT TODAY'S TALKS BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT AND SOLIDARITY WILL REACH FINAL AGREEMENT. INDEED, THE BBC CORRESPONDENT TELLS US THAT HIS CONTACTS IN SOLIDARITY DOUBT THAT RAKOWSKI WILL HAVE ANY MANDATE TO NEGOTIATE TODAY. ANY SETTLEMENT WHICH CAUSES THE CALLING-OFF OF THE GENERAL STRIKE IS UNLIKELY TO TAKE PLACE UNTIL MONDAY.

7. THE ADDITION BY SOLIDARITY OF 3 NEW DEMANDS, UNCONNECTED WITH THE BYDGOSZCZ INCIDENT ( EVIDENTLY AGAINST WALESA'S ADVICE) IN THE FORM OF AN ULTIMATUM, IS IRRESPONSIBLE AND PROVOCATIVE, EVEN IF PARTLY UNDERSTANDABLE IN THE CURRENT ATMOSPHERE OF TENSION AND MISTRUST. IN PARTICULAR IT IS DIFFICULT TO SEE HOW ANY GOVERNMENT COULD AGREE TO CONDITION B. OF MY  
TELNO 221 (ANNULMENT OF ALL LEGAL PROCEEDINGS AGAINST



AND MISTRUST. IN PARTICULAR IT IS DIFFICULT TO SEE  
HOW ANY GOVERNMENT COULD AGREE TO CONDITION B. OF MY  
TELNO 221 (ANNULMENT OF ALL LEGAL PROCEEDINGS AGAINST  
DISSIDENTS SINCE 1976). INDEED IF THE GOVERNMENT WERE  
TO YIELD ON ALL POINTS, ONE RESULT WOULD BE TO  
UNDERMINE WALESA. THE WHITE HOUSE PUBLIC WARNING  
AGAINST SOVIET INTERVENTION AND USE OF FORCE BY  
THE POLISH GOVERNMENT WILL HAVE THE EFFECT OF ENCOURAGING  
THE WILDER ELEMENTS OF SOLIDARITY AND THEREFORE MAKING  
MORE LIKELY WHAT IT PURPORTS TO PREVENT.

FCO PLEASE PASS SAVING ADDRESSEES.

PRIDHAM

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