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FM WARSAW 221355Z OCT

TO PRIORITY FCO

TELNO 728 OF 22ND OCTOBER 1981

INFO ROUTINE: WASHINGTON, UKDEL NATO AND MOSCOW

INFO SAVING: EAST BERLIN, PRAGUE, BUDAPEST, BUCHAREST,  
BELGRADE, SOFIA, BONN, PARIS, UKREP BRUSSELS, UKMIS NEW YORK,  
MODUK, STOCKHOLM AND HELSINKI.

POLISH SITUATION.

1. UNREST CONTINUES. YESTERDAY'S MOST SERIOUS INCIDENT WAS IN WROCLAW WHERE, AS IN KATOWICE, ATTEMPTS BY THE POLICE TO STOP THE DISTRIBUTION OF SOLIDARITY LITERATURE LED TO AN INCIDENT. A CROWD GATHERED AND WENT TO THE VOIVODSHIP HEADQUARTERS FROM WHERE THEY WERE EVENTUALLY DISPERSED. SIX PEOPLE WERE ARRESTED. IT SEEMS THAT IN BOTH KATOWICE AND WROCLAW IT HAS BEEN THE CUSTOM FOR SOME TIME FOR SOLIDARITY TO DISTRIBUTE THE TYPE OF LITERATURE WHICH THE POLICE WERE TRYING TO SEIZE. IN WROCLAW, THIS CUSTOM HAD BEEN INSTITUTIONALISED AND THE VAN DISTRIBUTING THE LITERATURE IS KNOWN AS "RADIO SOLIDARITY".

2. JARUZELSKI YESTERDAY MET ARCHBISHOP GLEMP FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE HIS ELECTION AS FIRST SECRETARY. THE SHORT COMMUNIQUE SAYS THAT THEY AGREED ON THE NEED FOR CONTINUING COOPERATION BETWEEN CHURCH AND STATE IN THE INTERESTS OF THE NATION, INTERNAL PEACE AND THE ODNOWA. THEY ALSO AGREED ON THE NEED FOR BROAD NATIONAL UNDERSTANDING.

3. THE COMMISSION FOR ECONOMIC REFORM MET YESTERDAY UNDER THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF JARUZELSKI AND CRITICISED THE PARTY'S PROPOSAL TO SUSPEND THE RIGHT TO STRIKE. THE PROPOSAL FOR A NEW SEJM CHAMBER ALSO SURFACED AT THIS MEETING.

4. IT IS BELIEVED THAT THE NEXT PLENUM, THE DATE OF WHICH HAS STILL NOT BEEN ANNOUNCED, WILL BRING CHANGES IN THE POLITBURO AND PROPOSALS FOR CHANGES IN THE GOVERNMENT. JARUZELSKI IS RUMOURED TO WANT TO BRING MORE NON-PARTY MEMBERS INTO THE GOVERNMENT AND TO WIDEN THE GOVT'S APPEAL ALTHOUGH RUMOURS THAT THE PRIME MINISTER MIGHT NOT BE A PARTY MEMBER CAN PROBABLY BE DISCOUNTED. BROADENING THE GOVERNMENT'S BASE WOULD BE THE START OF A LONG TERM STRATEGY TO CREATE A BROAD FRONT OF CONCILIATION IN POLAND.

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5. TWO EXAMPLES OF HOW HARD LIFE IS BECOMING FOR THE POLES.  
MY DEFENCE ATTACHE CALCULATED THAT THE LENGTH OF THE QUEUES FOR  
PETROL AT WROCLAW WERE 3 TO 4 KILOMETRES. HE COUNTED 371 TAXIS  
IN ANOTHER QUEUE. A COLLEAGUE WHOSE HOUSE IS OPPOSITE A  
BUTCHER'S SHOP SAID THAT QUEUES START AT 5 A.M. FOR MEAT WHICH  
IS DELIVERED AT 3 P.M.

FCO PLEASE PASS SAVING TO ALL SAVING ADDRESSEES

JAMES

REPEATED AS REQUESTED

THIS TELEGRAM  
WAS NOT  
ADVANCED

POLAND SPECIAL

[COPIES SENT TO NO 10 DOWNING ST]

STANDARD

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MR G BREACH ECGD

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