

Poland

POLAND: ADVANCE COPIES ~~27~~ (218)

PS
PS/LPS
PS/LORD TREFGARNE
PS/PUS
MR BULLARD
MR FERGUSSON
SIR A ACLAND
MR GILLMORE

NO 10 DOWNING ST
ASSESSMENT STAFF
CABINET OFFICE
DIO CABINET OFFICE

ADVANCE COPY

HD/MAD
HD/EESD - (Pol. Sp. & A.D. "7/5")
HD/DEF D
HD/PUSD (2)
HD/WED
HD/ECD(E)
HD/PLANNING STAFF
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~~IMMEDIATE~~ (21x)

CONFIDENTIAL

FM WARSAW 201205Z NOV
TO PRIORITY FCO
TELNO 805 OF 20TH NOVEMBER 1981
INFO ROUTINE: WASHINGTON, BONN, PARIS, UKDEL NATO AND MOSCOW

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

WALESA'S VIEWS.

1. THE US AMBASSADOR TOLD ME THAT HE HAD HAD A LONG TALK WITH WALESA YESTERDAY EVENING. HE HAD ARANGED THE MEETING BECAUSE HE WAS RETURNING TO THE STATES FOR A LONG LEAVE AND WOULD BE SEEING MR HAIG AND POSSIBLY THE PRESIDENT.

2. ON THE POLITICAL SITUATION, WALESA SAID THAT THE GOVERNMENT WANTED SOLIDARITY IN THE NATIONAL FRONT. SOLIDARITY WANTED TO DISCUSS AND RESOLVE THE MAIN ISSUES FIRST. THEY ATTACHED GREAT IMPORTANCE TO THE DISCUSSIONS WHICH WERE GOING ON WITH THE GOVERNMENT AT PRESENT. BUT THEY DID NOT EXPECT QUICK RESULTS. ON THE BASIS OF SATISFACTORY SETTLEMENTS WITH THE GOVERNMENT, THEY WOULD BE READY TO TAKE PART IN THE FRONT. THEY HAD NO OBJECTIONS IN PRINCIPLE TO THE IDEA OF A BROADER NATIONAL FRONT.

3. IN GENERAL THE US AMBASSADOR...

3. IN GENERAL, THE US AMBASSADOR FOUND WALESA RETURNING AGAIN AND AGAIN TO THE SAME IMAGE. SOLIDARITY WAS NEAR THE CREST OF THE HILL, SUCCESS WAS IN SIGHT BUT THEY COULD EASILY SLIP DOWN THE OTHER SIDE TOWARDS FAILURE AND DISASTER. THEY WOULD NEED STILL TO BE VERY CAGEY WITH THE GOVERNMENT. WALESA SAID AT ONE POINT THAT THE GOVERNMENT WOULD HAVE BEEN READY TO MAKE HIM A VICE PREMIER. BUT HE WAS NOT GOING TO FALL FOR THAT SORT OF STUFF. NOR WOULD HE PERSONALLY GET DRAWN INTO THE PRESENT NEGOTIATIONS. IT WAS IMPORTANT THAT HE KEPT HIMSELF IN RESERVE.

4. ON THE ECONOMIC SITUATION, WALESA TALKED ABOUT HIS APPEAL FOR AID TO WESTERN TRADE UNIONS. HE SAID THAT THIS WAS VERY IMPORTANT FOR SOLIDARITY AND THE RESPONSE WOULD BE CRUCIAL. MEEHAN ASKED HIM HOW MUCH AID HE WAS LOOKING FOR. HE SAID FIVE BILLION DOLLARS. MEEHAN THEN ASKED WHAT WAS THE MINIMUM HE BELIEVED NECESSARY FOR ECONOMIC RECOVERY. WALESA SAID THREE BILLION. WALESA DID NOT SEEM UNDULY PREOCCUPIED BY THE DIFFICULTIES AHEAD THIS WINTER. HIS MAIN ANXIETY WAS THE CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, THE IMPORTANCE OF WHICH HE SAID, IN A RATHER GRAND WAY, THE RANK AND FILE OF SOLIDARITY DID NOT UNDERSTAND.

FCO PLEASE PASS SAVING ✓ TO ALL SAVING ADDRESSEES

[Passed telegraphically to home as saving, as requested.]

JAMES

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