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TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TELNO 915 OF 15TH DECEMBER 1981

AND TO IMMEDIATE PRAGUE (FOR PS/LORD TREFGARNE)

WASHINGTON, BONN, MOSCOW, PARIS, UKDEL NATO, MODUK, HQBAOR AND
HQRAFG

POLISH SITUATION.

1. IN THE EARLY HOURS OF THIS MORNING THE HUTA WARSZAWA FACTORY NEAR WARSAW WAS RAIDED BY THE ARMY AND POLICE AND THE STRIKERS WHO WERE OCCUPYING IT WERE CLEARED OUT, REPORTEDLY WITHOUT VIOLENCE. ALSO YESTERDAY EVENING THE POLICE RAIDED THE URSUS FACTORY AND ARRESTED 300 KEY ACTIVISTS, OF WHOM THEY LATER RELEASED 240. MFP OFFICIALS HAVE TOLD US THAT THE FACTORY IS OPERATING ONLY PARTIALLY AND THAT, FOLLOWING THE REMOVAL OF THE 60 KEY SOLIDARITY ACTIVISTS, OTHER MEMBERS OF SOLIDARITY ARE ORGANISING FURTHER ACTION. THE MOOD AT THE FACTORY SEEMS TO BE ONE OF ANGER AND DETERMINATION. BUT GENERALLY THE CITY SEEMS CALM.

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2. STRIKING STUDENTS IN THE UNIVERSITY AND WARSAW POLYTECHNIC HAVE BEEN CLEARED OUT BY THE POLICE IN THE SAME WAY. SOLDIERS IN THE AREA HAVE THEIR GUNS AT THE READY. THE ARMY ARE STRIPPING WARSAW OF ALL TRACES OF SOLIDARITY. BILL POSTERS AND NOTICES ARE BEING REMOVED AND NEWSPAPERS, LEAFLETS, CONFISCATED. MEMBERS OF DEFENCE SECTION HAVE BEEN IMPRESSED BY THE EFFICIENCY OF THIS OPERATION.
3. OUR INFORMATION FROM OUTSIDE WARSAW IS LESS RELIABLE. WE HAVE HEARD THAT THE LENIN SHIPYARD STRIKE HAS BEEN BROKEN IN THE SAME MANNER AS THOSE IN WARSAW. AND THERE ARE RUMOURS OF SIMILAR ACTION IN KATOWICE. SOLIDARITY HAVE CLAIMED THAT MANY PARTS OF THE COUNTRY ARE ON STRIKE. A NEW STRIKE CLAIM HAS BEEN MADE FOR THE SWIDNIK HELICOPTER FACTORY. BUT THERE ARE MANY CITIES AND AREAS FROM WHICH THERE HAS BEEN NO INFORMATION WHATSOEVER SINCE SUNDAY MORNING.
4. AT THIS MORNINGS' NATO HEADS OF MISSION MEETING, THE US CHARGE' REPORTED HIS MEETING WITH ARCHBISHOP GLEMP THE PREVIOUS EVENING. GLEMP TOLD WILGIS THAT HE HAD AGREED WITH THE GOVERNMENT'S REQUEST THAT HIS SUNDAY SERMON BE REPEATED ON WARSAW RADIO ON CONDITION THAT IT WAS BROADCAST IN ITS ENTIRITY. THIS CONDITION HAD BEEN MET BUT GLEMP DID NOT LIKE THE WAY THE RADIO STATION HAD GONE ON REPEATING IT. THE PRIMATE WAS GENERALLY PESSIMISTIC. HE CONFESSED HE HAD LITTLE HARD INFORMATION BUT HE THOUGHT THAT SOME 2000 SOLIDARITY ACTIVISTS HAD BEEN ARRESTED. HE SAID WALESA WAS BEING HELD IN A SOUTHERN SUBURB OF WARSAW AND WAS UNDER STRONG PRESSURE TO BROADCAST SOMETHING CONCILIATORY. GLEMP WAS CONVINCED WALESA WOULD CONTINUE TO REFUSE. GLEMP SAID THAT HE HAD SPOKEN TO WALESA BUT NOT TO JARUZELSKI. FOUR PRIESTS HAD BEEN ARRESTED. THE POLISH BISHOPS WERE HOLDING A MEETING TODAY WHEN GLEMP WOULD GET MORE INFORMATION.
5. THE NORWEGIAN AMBASSADOR SAID HIS FIRST SECRETARY HAD RETURNED YESTERDAY FROM GDYNIA/GDANSK WHERE HE HAD PASSED BY THE LENIN AND PARIS COMMUNE SHIPYARDS. HE HAD SEEN NO POLICE OR MILITARY BUT ONLY THE WORKERS' STRIKE GUARDS WITH ARMBANDS. SHOPS WERE OPEN AND LIFE SEEMED TO BE CONTINUING NORMALLY. HE BROUGHT BACK A COPY OF THE NEW SOLIDARITY LEADERSHIP'S FIRST BROADSHEET CALLED ''KOMUNIKAT I'' CALLING FOR A GENERAL STRIKE. IT WAS SIGNED BY KRUPINSKI, A VICE PRESIDENT OF SOLIDARITY'S NATIONAL COMMITTEE, WHO HAD ESCAPED ARREST, AND BY FOUR OTHER NATIONAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS. THE DANISH AMBASSADOR HAD SPOKEN WITH A DANISH PETER NITSESEN TRUCK DRIVER WHO HAD RECENTLY ARRIVED FROM SWINOUJSCIE.

WHO HAD ESCAPED ARREST, AND BY THE MEMBERS. THE DANISH AMBASSADOR HAD SPOKEN WITH A DANISH PETER JUSTESEN. TRUCK DRIVER WHO HAD RECENTLY ARRIVED FROM SWINOUJSCIE. HE HAD SEEN AN IMPRESSIVE NUMBER OF TROOPS MOVING TOWARDS WARSAW AND HAD COUNTED BETWEEN 4 AND 500 ARMoured CARS AND TANKS ON THE ROAD. THE BELGIAN MILITARY ATTACHE, JUST RETURNED FROM LEAVE, ALSO SAW MANY VEHICLES ON THE E8, A LOT OF THEM IN THE DITCH. HE REPORTED ARTILLERY MOVING AND SAW MANY TANKS ABOUT 170 KM FROM WARSAW ON THE E8. IN POZNAN, EACH FACTORY HE PASSED HAD A TANK AT THE ENTRANCE.

6. THE US CHARGE' REPORTED THE ABORTIVE ATTEMPTS OF THREE AMERICAN TEAMS TO GET TO GDANSK, POZNAN, AND KRAKOW. ALL WERE INTERCEPTED BY THE POLICE AND SENT BACK. THE AMERICANS HAVE HAD DIPLOMATS DETAINED OUTSIDE HUTA WARSZAWA AND THE MAZOWSZE SOLIDARITY HQ IN TOWN AND TWO MEMBERS OF THE U.S. EMBASSY HAVE BEEN PNGD FOR PHOTOGRAPHING IN THE STREETS. WE HAVE HAD NO PROBLEMS YET AND I HAVE URGED STAFF TO BE PARTICULARLY CAREFUL AND COURTEOUS.

JAMES

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