



POLICY

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THE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE,

24 FEB 1981 18 03
Poland
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Yeps
OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301

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24 FEB 1981

In reply refer to:
1-20317/81

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

SUBJECT: Polish Situation - NSC Meeting, 1100, 25 February 1981 --
INFORMATION MEMORANDUM

(S) The situation in Poland has calmed down considerably since the appointment of Army General Wojciech Jaruzelski as Premier. The student strikes in Lodz have ended, and a settlement with the peasants was reached. While it is impossible to say how long this period of calm will last, the situation has improved significantly over what it was two weeks ago, and provides the first ray of hope that the Kania government may yet succeed in getting matters under control.

Poland

(S) For its part, the USSR appears to have decided to give Kania and company more time to get its internal house in order. The readiness of Soviet troops around Poland has been reduced and the propaganda attacks on Solidarity, the Polish trade union, toned down. At the same time, however, speaking at the 26th congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union in Moscow, Brezhnev suggested that the Soviets would intervene if the Party's control of the situation deteriorates further. (An Intelligence update is included at Tab A.)

(S) While State seems to be continuing to work on the Polish situation, there have been no interagency meetings on Poland since 4 February. Effectively we have been cut out (except to the extent you have discussed the issues at the NSC level, but we have no good debrief on that). The interagency process has largely focused on the list of economic measures which the allies will consider putting into place if the Soviets move against Poland. We have done some work also on military measures which could be taken (both alliance-wide and unilaterally), and it would be profitable for the NSC to review these. A good first step would be convening a SIG on Poland, with Defense to have the lead on military matters.

Office of the Secretary of Defense
Chief, RDD, ESD, WHS
Date: 02/24/81 Authority: EO 13526
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Franklin D. Kramer
Franklin D. Kramer
Under Secretary of Defense
for Policy (Acting)

Attachment
a/s

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Authority: EO 13526
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