



Director of
Central
Intelligence

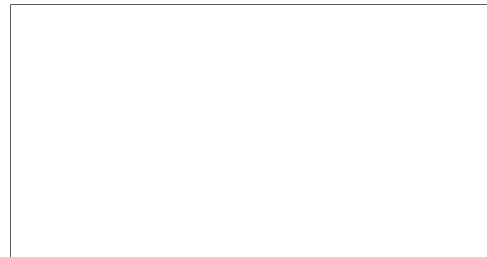
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National Intelligence Daily

Friday
9 December 1983

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PLO: Arafat's Evacuation Plans

The evacuation of PLO chairman Arafat's forces from Tripoli, scheduled for tomorrow, will mark the beginning of a struggle between him and his opponents to control the political organs of the PLO. 


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The Greek Government has told the US Embassy in Athens that the evacuation on four Greek ships will begin in the morning and end later in the day. Greece has sought assurances from Israel that it will not interfere with the operation, and it has asked the US, France, and the UK to do the same. 

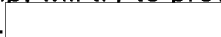
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Arafat's approximately 4,000 troops will be sent mainly to Tunisia and North Yemen. Some reportedly may eventually go to other Arab countries, including Algeria and South Yemen. 

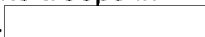
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PLO spokesmen say Arafat intends soon to convene the PLO decisionmaking bodies, in which he commands a majority. Dissident leaders are warning against such a move and imply they will retaliate against Palestinian participants in the meetings. 

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Comment: Both Arafat and his opponents seem prepared to allow the evacuation to proceed without major hindrance, although isolated shooting incidents could temporarily disrupt the operation. Arafat believes the Palestine National Council and other PLO institutions will reaffirm his position as PLO chairman. The dissidents realize this, and, with Syrian help, will try to prevent the meetings through intimidation and terror. 

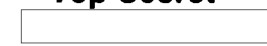
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Arafat's departure may be followed by clashes between pro- and anti-Syrian militias in Tripoli. The Islamic Unification Movement, a fundamentalist Muslim militia that sided with Arafat, apparently has had little success in repairing its relations with Syria. Its troops in recent days have clashed with Syrian-backed militias. 

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EGYPT-SAUDI ARABIA: Reaction to US Moves

Cairo and Riyadh are tempering their public responses to the US-Israeli military agreement and to the airstrike against Syrian missile sites, despite their continued opposition to the moves. [Redacted]

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Aides to Egyptian Foreign Minister Ali have told a US official that President Mubarak has decided to give the US the "benefit of the doubt" about its recent actions. The aides indicated that Mubarak's decision resolves, at least for the time being, an intense debate in the leadership over how to respond. They say, however, that public anger at the US has strengthened the hand of officials who are arguing for a dramatic gesture that would disassociate Egypt from the US.

[Redacted]

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The US Embassy in Jidda reports that there is widespread dismay among Saudi officials about the US-Israeli accord and the airstrikes but that King Fahd is trying to limit the damage to Saudi-US relations. A close adviser to the King says Fahd has refused to condemn the US actions publicly, despite pressure within his government to do so.

[Redacted]

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Comment: The Egyptians may yet show their displeasure over the US actions by dragging their feet on strategic cooperation with the US. Because of Cairo's reliance on US military, economic, and political support, however, it is reluctant to let its relations with Washington undergo serious deterioration.

[Redacted]

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Riyadh's mild response evidently is attributable to the recognition—even by Crown Prince Abdallah and other longstanding Saudi critics of US policy—that US support would be needed to counter any Iranian military actions in the Persian Gulf. Joint US-Israeli military actions in Lebanon or additional US-Syrian clashes, however, would diminish Fahd's latitude in continuing political and security cooperation with the US.

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IRAQ-IRAN: Iraqi Air Attacks in the Persian Gulf

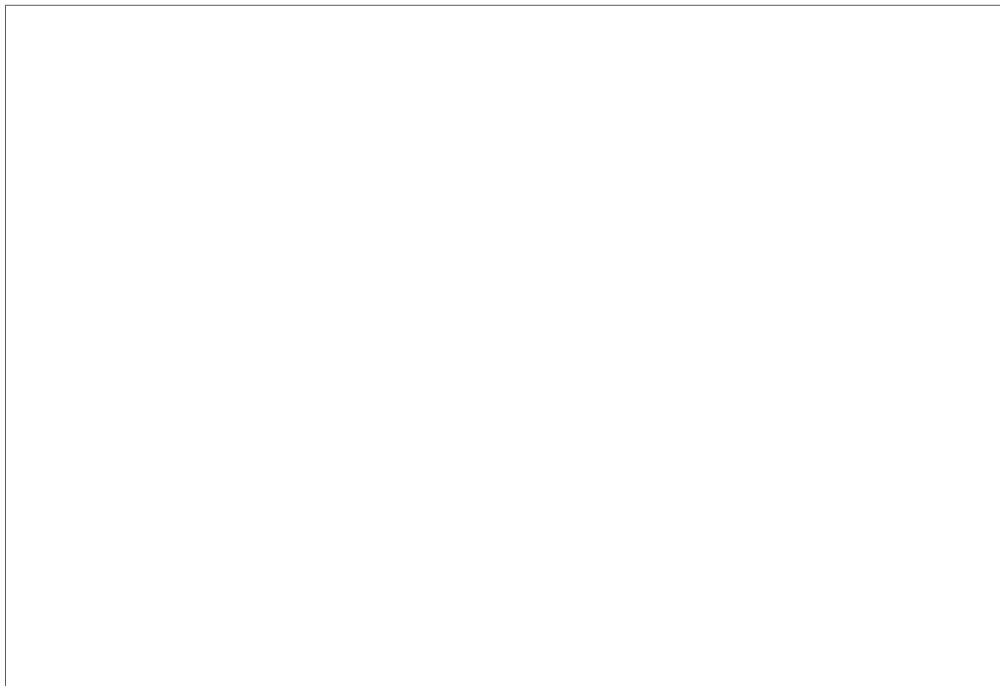
Baghdad appears determined to close down the Iranian port of Bandar-e Khomeyni, through which some 20 percent of Iran's imports pass. 

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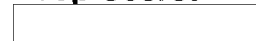
Iraq claims to have hit six more Iranian ships yesterday near Bandar-e Khomeyni, Iran's only port with a functioning railhead. The Air Force, supported by naval units, led the attack, according to Baghdad's announcement. The Iraqis say they downed one Iranian fighter, while losing one of their own. 

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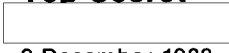
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NICARAGUA-HONDURAS-COSTA RICA: Maritime Incidents

Several naval clashes between Honduras and Nicaragua, as well as an incident involving a Costa Rican freighter, are contributing to rising tensions in the region. [Redacted]

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Managua has filed an official protest charging Tegucigalpa with responsibility for three recent clashes, including two in the Gulf of Fonseca. The Sandinistas acknowledge the first encounter was between naval units but claim the other attacks involved Nicaraguan fishing vessels. [Redacted]

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[Redacted]

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In addition, a US-owned, Costa Rican-registered cargo ship was attacked by aircraft off Nicaragua's east coast earlier this week. The shipping company's representative says the aircraft belonged to the Sandinistas. San Jose has sent an official protest to Managua over the incident. [Redacted]

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Comment: The Hondurans have had the better of the Sandinistas in several naval engagements this fall, and they evidently have improved coordination between their air and naval forces. More incidents are likely as a result of more aggressive Sandinista naval patrolling. [Redacted]

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Sandinista Air Force participation in the reported attack on the east coast remains unconfirmed. The Sandinistas routinely conduct surveillance around Nicaragua's offshore islands, however, and they may have believed the ship was in their claimed territorial waters. [Redacted]

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CANADA: Preelection Politics

The government introduced a new legislative program on Wednesday designed to strengthen economic recovery, promote arms control, and improve its prospects for the federal election expected to be held next fall. [Redacted]

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The economic plan includes \$810 million for job training, which is aimed at easing unemployment among young people, and measures to make more mortgage money available. Ottawa also stressed its intention to expand trade and improve relations with the US and reaffirmed its strong commitment to the goals of the National Energy Program. In addition, the government promised to devote its full resources to the continuation and expansion of Prime Minister Trudeau's current peace initiative. [Redacted]

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Comment: The economic plans are consistent with the conservative policy established last April by Finance Minister Lalonde in his budget. The government did not provide an estimate of the program's cost, but Lalonde said the funding would be pared from existing programs and not come from increased taxes or deficit spending. The Liberals are anxious to counter Tory accusations of fiscal irresponsibility, and they probably believe that a conservative economic policy will undercut the opposition's criticism. [Redacted]

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Ottawa's campaign to promote arms control reflects Trudeau's ideological commitment to disarmament and the Liberal Party's hope that the initiative will appeal to the public and begin to erode the Conservative Party's 29-point lead in the polls. Trudeau is likely to pick up the pace of his campaign soon by seeking to put public pressure on both superpowers to resume disarmament negotiations. [Redacted]

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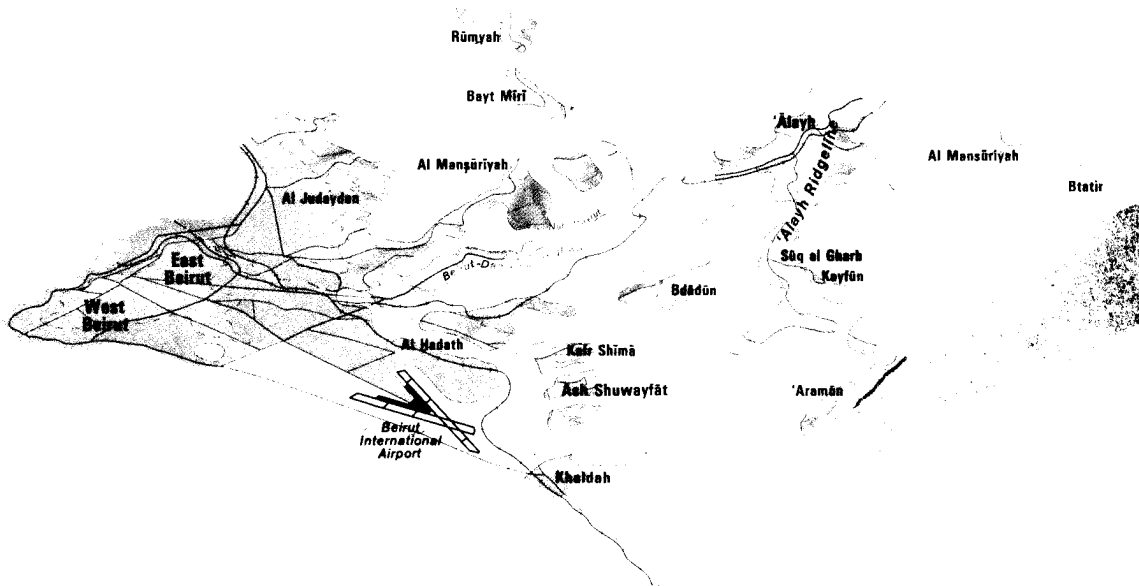
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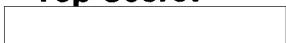


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LEBANON-US: Conciliatory Moves by Druze

Druze leaders are concerned about continuing rumors that US forces plan to assist the Lebanese Army in sweeps of southern Beirut and Druze-held areas on the Alayh ridgeline in the near future. They have offered to have a US military observer come to Shuwayfat to survey Druze positions there overlooking Beirut Airport and to monitor the sources of fire. In addition, they have invited the US Ambassador to visit Druze leader Walid Junblatt at his mountain stronghold and have offered to allow the airport to reopen. [Redacted]

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Comment: The Druze leaders probably hope that these moves, following the deaths of US Marines on Sunday, will reduce US hostility toward them and forestall any retaliation. Monitoring Druze positions around the airport could substantially reduce the likelihood of further shelling of the Marines. [Redacted]

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USSR: Remarks on Andropov's Performance

[Redacted]
many people [Redacted] are disappointed about General Secretary Andropov's failure to follow through on his anticorruption drive. [Redacted] Andropov would remain in office in a caretaker capacity because the old guard in the Politburo distrusts the younger aspirants and because he continues to have strong military support. Last summer [Redacted] members of the academic community in Moscow were disappointed that Andropov's anticorruption drive had not accomplished more. [Redacted]

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Comment: The view of Andropov as a transitional leader may now be widespread in party circles because of his prolonged absence. This would make it more difficult for him to reassert authority even if he fully recovered his health. The recent willingness [Redacted] to speculate on who may succeed Andropov is another indication that his political position has eroded. [Redacted]

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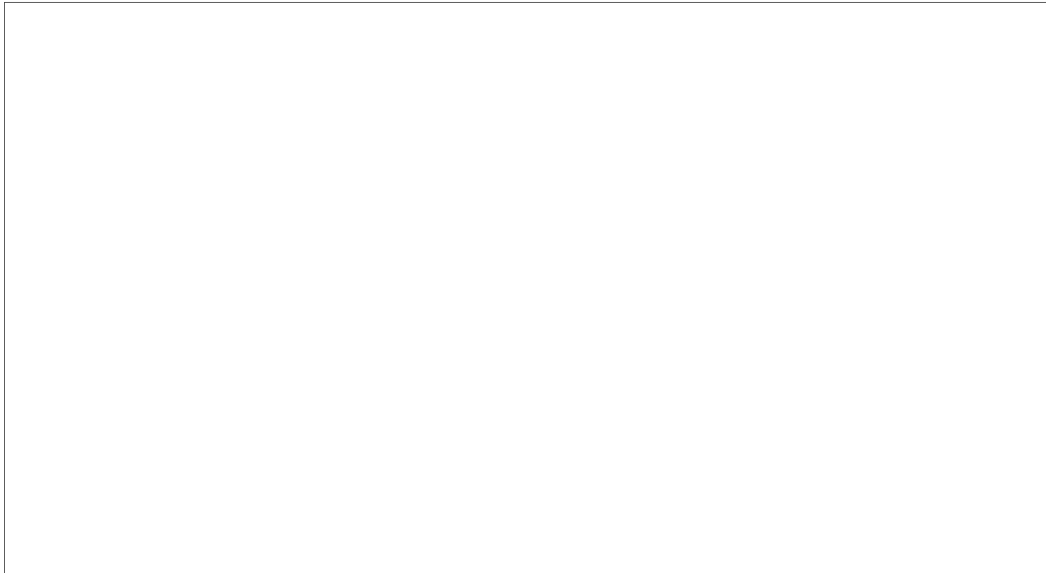
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EL SALVADOR: Vides and the Death Squads

Defense Minister Vides, in meetings with US officials today in Washington, is expected to request US aid in investigating and prosecuting personnel involved in death squad activities, according to the US Embassy. Vides recently has begun a vocal campaign to eliminate rightwing terrorist groups and has privately told staff and field commanders that extremist violence is undermining democratization and jeopardizing relations with Washington. The US defense attache says that last week Vides appointed National Guard intelligence chief Arango to investigate death squad activities in the armed forces. [Redacted]

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Comment: Vides previously has refrained from linking armed forces personnel to rightwing violence, and his new approach may reflect his growing confidence in his authority in the military. Nevertheless, he cannot succeed without overwhelming support from military commanders. Many commanders have strong rightist sympathies, and they probably would reject any moves that would weaken the standing of the officer corps. In 1979, Arango reportedly served as a leader of a death squad in the National Guard. [Redacted]

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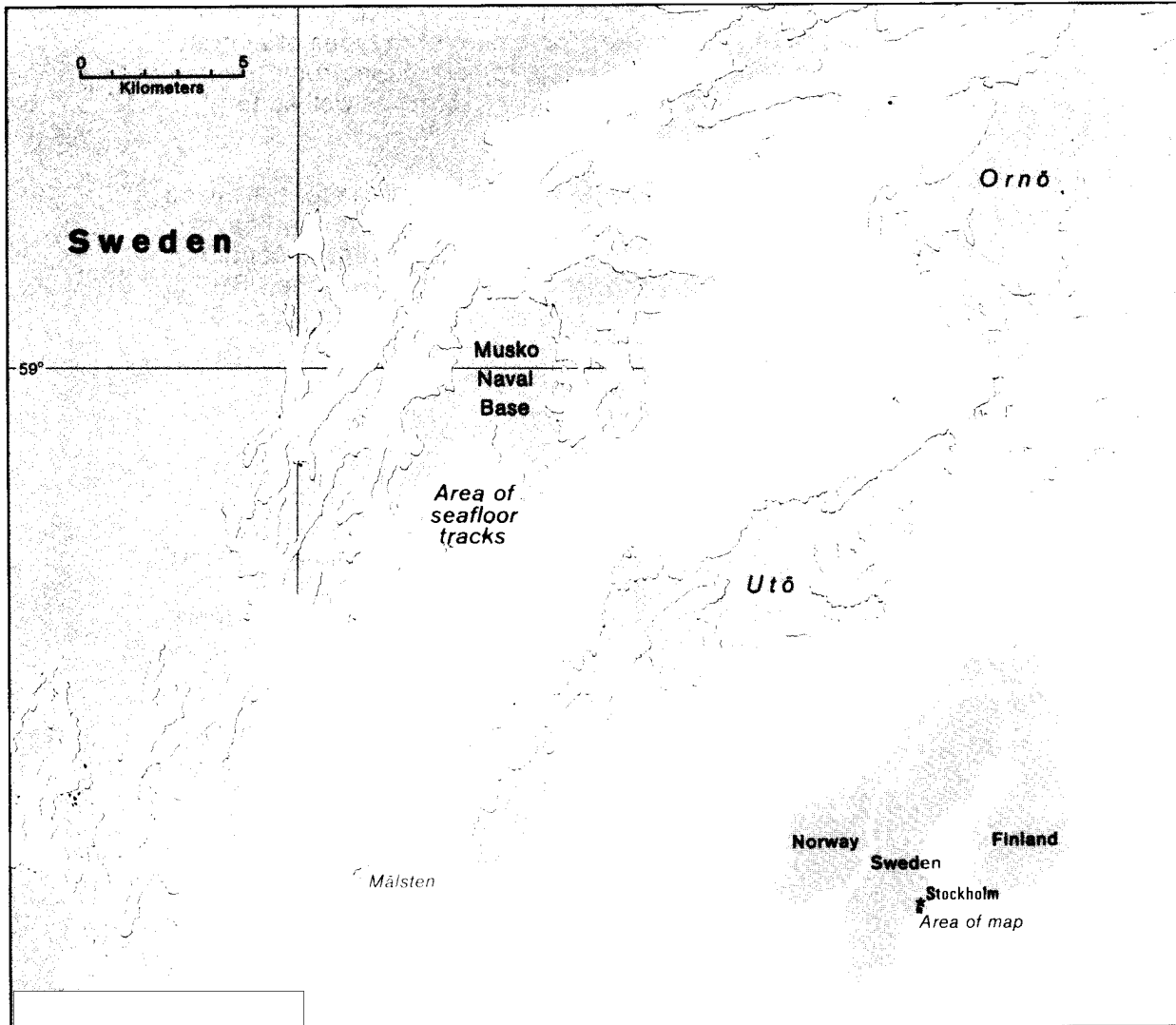
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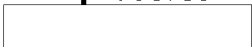
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SWEDEN: New Evidence of Minisubmarine Intrusions

In mid-November Swedish Navy divers discovered caterpillar-tread-type tracks on the seafloor within Swedish waters in a restricted area near naval facilities south of Stockholm. The numerous parallel and crisscrossing tracks are in waters nine to 15 meters deep, and were one to four weeks old when discovered. They appear identical to the tracks found last October in nearby Horsfjarden Bay. The US naval attache in Stockholm, who has viewed video tapes of the tracks, reports they are clearly distinguishable from anchor drag marks and natural seafloor features.



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Comment: This new evidence adds credibility to Sweden's claims that intrusions by minisubmarines, which were first discovered in October 1982, are continuing. The tracks are the most persuasive physical evidence of the minisubmarine intrusions. Neither the minisubmarines nor their support facilities have been identified.



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UK: Plans of Peace Movement

The decision last weekend by the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament to mount a nationwide effort to prevent cruise missile dispersal training will cause Defense Secretary Heseltine to move cautiously. The US Embassy reports that the Campaign increased its direct membership by more than 50 percent last year—to 80,000—and says that public nervousness about US intentions will keep the peace movement strong. The Embassy adds, however, that the Campaign's decision to lobby for British withdrawal from NATO will limit its appeal among moderates.



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Comment: A determined effort by the peace movement to block off-base training will be difficult to circumvent. Heseltine probably will delay until he is confident that his security forces can control the situation. Even then, however, the Defense Minister will remain concerned that the movement may foment incidents that could damage the government and his own political standing. Heseltine is frequently cited as one of the possible successors to Prime Minister Thatcher.



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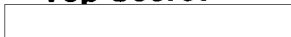
Coming Events

10 December	Walesa's wife accepts the Nobel Peace Prize for her husband.
13 December	Second anniversary of martial law.
16 December	13th anniversary of worker protests in Gdansk, Gdynia, and Szczecin. Second anniversary of the killing of seven miners at mines in Wujek following the imposition of martial law. Walesa has stated he will lay flowers at the Solidarity monument in Gdansk and speak to the crowds.
Early January	Underground has called for peaceful demonstrations. Price increases to go into effect.



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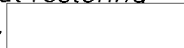


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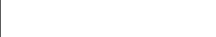
POLAND: Preparing for Trouble

The authorities have tightened security and renewed criticism of Lech Walesa in an effort to forestall antiregime activities in the coming weeks. The government evidently fears that growing disaffection over its economic policies, especially proposed price increases, will lead to increased participation in demonstrations next week marking the anniversaries of martial law and the workers' revolt in 1970. The authorities also may believe that a renewed show of determination is necessary to limit sporadic and unpredictable strikes. The regime probably will be able to maintain control, however, without restoring martial law controls or resorting to other harsh measures.



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Premier Jaruzelski's recent efforts to blunt popular unhappiness over his policies have not worked. His unprecedented apology for the inept reintroduction of butter rationing early last month and monthlong "consultations" on the proposed price increases have not improved the regime's credibility, which is at rock bottom. Instead, they probably have only persuaded the population that the government's economic policies are not working.



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Precautionary Moves

The regime's heightened security measures include threats of increased use of stop-and-search tactics, more overtime for the secret police, and a possible limited callup of reserves. A special Committee on the Preservation of Law, Public Order, and Societal Discipline also has been created under the Minister of Interior, presumably to give the appearance of widespread popular support for the activity of the security services.



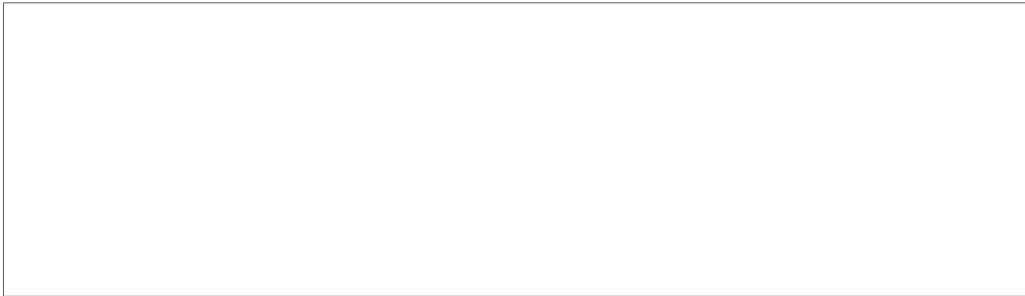
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To discourage demonstrations, the authorities probably will warn potential troublemakers to stay at home, perhaps temporarily detain some, and possibly arrest a few well-known underground activists.



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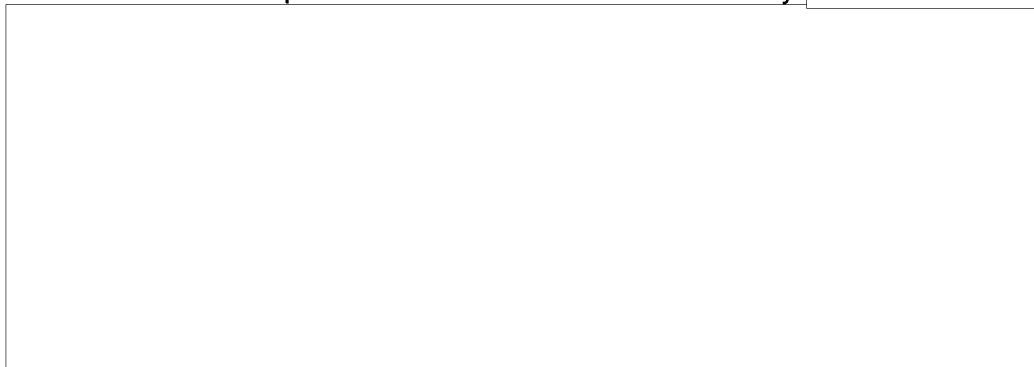
As part of its longer term program, the government in recent months also has laid the legal groundwork that would allow it easily to reinvoke a state of emergency. Last month Jaruzelski became head of a strengthened National Defense Committee, which oversees the special operations groups and plays a key role in declaring and implementing emergency measures. In addition, legislation was passed earlier this week outlining procedures for declaring emergencies in all or part of the country. 


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Countering Walesa's Influence


The authorities have renewed their public criticism of Walesa, probably hoping to counteract the favorable publicity he will receive when his wife accepts his Nobel Peace Prize on Saturday. 

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Walesa recognizes that his goals cannot be achieved soon, but he apparently believes he has to keep up pressure on the authorities until they realize that current policies cannot work and that compromises are necessary. He has openly stated, however, that he is opposed to demonstrations. 

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The government probably believes that Walesa's program will become widely known, even though he will not be allowed to address workers on 16 December. It also has sought to belittle Walesa's call for an easing of Western sanctions, because it fears that a positive Western response would increase his prestige. 

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Prospects

Recent events clearly indicate that the population remains deeply alienated and that, when threatened, the authorities will return to proven tactics of intimidation. Although some demonstrations are likely in the next few weeks, they should not pose a serious challenge

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to the regime. The authorities may be more hard pressed to deal with the sporadic strikes or protests that result from austerity measures or from the action of local officials. 

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To forestall such problems, the authorities might postpone temporarily the imposition of price increases apparently scheduled for early next month. A lengthy postponement or even cancellation of the increases, however, is unlikely. Either move would disrupt efforts to stabilize the economy and create the impression that the regime can be swayed by public pressure. 

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