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Pole Says U.S. Learned of Plans for Martial Law

By MICHAEL T. KAUFMAN Special to The New York Times

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WARSAW, June 4 — Senior American officials learned in advance from a defecting Polish colonel how and when the Polish authorities planned to impose martial law in 1981, the Polish Government's spokesman said today.

The spokesman asserted that American officials chose not to thwart the operation by warning Solidarity or Roman Catholic Church leaders.
[In Washington, the Reagan Ad-

[In Washington, the Reagan Administration called the charge "trumped up."]

Responding to a report in The Washington Post today confirming the defec-

tion of the agent in 1981, the Government spokesman identified the Polish officer as Col. Wlodzimierz Kuklinski. He was on the army's General Staff until he disappeared from Poland with his two grown sons and their families 36 days before Gen. Wojciech Jaruzelski ordered tanks into the streets to crush the Solidarity movement.

Solidarity leaders, told of the comments by the spokesman, Jerzy Urban, confirmed that no credible warnings of any imminent army crackdown were transmitted to them in the winter of 1981. The Solidarity sources added that with such advance notice, they might have staved off the Government's mili-

tary move by disclosing the plans and preparing for a general strike.

Reached at his home in Gdansk, Lech Walesa, the founder of Solidarity, said that in the winter of 1981 he had received "absolutely no warning from anyone."

As to the question of whether such a warning would have deflected the possibility of martial law, he said it was foolish to speculate.

Mr. Urban insisted that the colonel knew all particulars of the plan, which he had reportedly helped put together. The Polish Government spokesman said the agent knew specifically that the crackdown would have to come be-

fore Dec. 16, when a large part of the army was due to be discharged on a scheduled rotation.

Mr. Urban noted in an interview that the success of the operation on Dec. 13, 1981, depended greatly on an element of surprise, and many Solidarity activists have said how stunned they were to see the army on the streets.