POLAND: Negotiations Continue With Workers

Tensions appear to be subsiding in the Polish factories where unrest flared up again last Thursday and Friday. The regime has refused to roll back meat price increases but has apparently agreed to compensatory wage increases ranging from 5 to 10 percent. The government probably felt compelled into such concessions because of the mounting evidence that the work stoppages were spreading and beginning to involve white-collar workers. The meat price increases have apparently not been implemented throughout the country, and many workers have not yet been faced with them. The regime has said that the wage increases are tied to increases in productivity, but workers will expect them in any case. Workers who have not yet been granted wage increases may cause trouble. Finally, a Central Committee official told 9 that the meat price increases are only a part of a larger package of price reforms, and these, when implemented, could cause additional problems.

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