

CIACO NID 81 [REDACTED]

September 18, 1981

POLAND: Union Under Pressure

The regime continues to press the union to moderate its behavior even though Solidarity's initial response to the Politburo statement was relatively restrained. [REDACTED]

Prime Minister Jaruzelski yesterday chaired an all day "extraordinary" session of the Council of Ministers, which will issue a communique today. Warsaw also signaled to the country yesterday that it is under pressure from the Soviets by announcing that the Soviet Ambassador had passed the contents of a Soviet party Central Committee message to Jaruzelski and party leader Kania. According to the Polish news agency the statement expressed Moscow's concern that anti-Sovietism in Poland has a "precisely determined thrust" which has reached "dangerous limits."

Holding a session of the Council of Ministers could indicate that the leadership is still trying to work out its strategy. There are rumors in Warsaw that the party Central Committee may meet this weekend. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] the leadership had not expected the strong show of militancy at the first session of the union congress and early this week was baffled over how to prevent a repetition at the second session. [REDACTED] the leadership's only choice was to encourage union moderation by making some concessions but did not rule out the possibility that the congress would be banned and those who failed to comply would be arrested. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] moderates in the leadership have threatened to resign en masse if Solidarity does not temper its behavior at the second session. [REDACTED]

In a show of restraint, Solidarity's national press spokesman defended the union against charges that it is seeking confrontation, appealed for calm, said that the union would not be "provoked," and downplayed the politically sensitive resolutions passed at the congress. He

--continued

Approved for Release
Date AUG 1999

364
~~325 A~~

September 18, 1981

did, however, aggressively reassert the union's insistence on a far-reaching version of worker self-management. [REDACTED]

Despite the heightened tensions, union representatives and government censors yesterday worked out compromise wording of the disputed articles planned for publication in the union weekly; the paper was then published. The militant Warsaw chapter of Solidarity, nevertheless, printed the original articles in its local bulletin, which is not subject to censorship. This act of defiance may provoke a regime response. [REDACTED]

While prompt Soviet publication of Wednesday's statement by the Polish Politburo indicates approval of its criticism of Solidarity, Soviet editing suggests that Moscow may believe Warsaw is still too inclined toward persuasion, rather than action. [REDACTED]

TASS published most of the Polish statement but omitted its reaffirmation of "socialist renewal" and references to the acceptability of a self-governing trade union. It also omitted those elements in the Politburo's appeal that suggested hesitation in directly challenging the union and implied that Moscow considers the situation more urgent than does Warsaw. [REDACTED]

Low Level of Military Activity

There is no indication of an alert of Polish forces,

[REDACTED]