Pop Secret

POLAND: Solidarity Leader Arrested

Polish television reported yesterday that the authorities have arrested Wladyslaw Frasyniuk, one of the five key Solidarity underground leaders. In Wroclaw, Frasyniuk had established one of the union's strongest and best organized chapters.

Comment: The authorities may have hoped to disrupt any organized reaction to the impending dissolution of the union, but Frasyniuk's arrest could add to the anger and frustration in Wroclaw and inspire protest. The security services may know where the other four prominent leaders are in hiding and will arrest them as well. The authorities probably believe such arrests would help demoralize Solidarity's remaining leaders and disrupt the union's plans. In addition, they evidently are confident they can control any demonstrations.

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