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FM WARSAW 191610Z JAN 82

TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TELNO 133 OF 19TH JANUARY 1982

INFO ROUTINE: WASHINGTON, MOSCOW AND UKDEL NATO  
INFO SAVING: EAST BERLIN, PRAGUE, BELGRADE, SOFIA, BUCHAREST,  
BUDAPEST, HELSINKI, STOCKHOLM, PARIS, BONN, UKMIS NEW YORK,  
UKREP BRUSSELS AND MODUK

POLAND : THE CHURCH.

1. THERE WAS A MEETING YESTERDAY OF THE JOINT CHURCH/STATE COMMISSION. THE PAP REPORT SAID THAT THE MAIN THEME FOR THE MEETING WAS THE POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC SITUATION IN POLAND AND THE SEARCH FOR WAYS OUT OF THE CRISIS. BOTH SIDES AGREED ON THE URGENT NEED FOR POLITICAL SOLUTIONS WHICH WOULD LEAD TO REAL AND LASTING UNDERSTANDING AND NATIONAL UNITY. IT WAS AGREED THAT COOPERATION BETWEEN CHURCH AND STATE WOULD MAKE AN EFFECTIVE CONTRIBUTION TO SPEEDING THE END OF MARTIAL LAW. IN THIS CONTEXT THE FUTURE ACTIVITIES OF THE TRADE UNIONS AND OTHER SOCIAL ORGANISATIONS WAS DISCUSSED AND THE BASIS OF OPERATION OF EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS.
2. THE GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES INFORMED THE CHURCH ABOUT THE MEASURES THAT JARUZELSKI WOULD ANNOUNCE TO THE SJM NEXT WEEK WHICH WOULD BE AIMED AT "LIMITING THE IMPOSITION" OF MARTIAL LAW. BOTH SIDES AGREED THAT IN ITS CURRENT EXTREMELY DIFFICULT SITUATION THE COUNTRY NEEDED ECONOMIC HELP RATHER THAN ECONOMIC SANCTIONS, WHICH HINDERED THE OVERCOMING OF THE CRISIS SIGNIFICANTLY AND FRUSTRATED A RETURN TO THE FULL REALISATION OF THE PROCESS OF ODNOWA IN THE SPIRIT OF THE SOCIAL AGREEMENTS.
3. REPRESENTATIVES OF THE EPISCOPATE EXPRESSED THEIR DISQUIET AT INCIDENTS WHICH SEEMED TO HAVE OCCURRED BECAUSE OF SPITE TOWARDS CITIZENS AND WHICH WEAKENED PEOPLES TRUST ( IN THE AUTHORITIES). THE GOVERNMENT SAID THAT THIS HAD NOT BEEN THE INTENTION OF THE AUTHORITIES. FINALLY THEY DISCUSSED THE ACTIVITIES OF THE CHURCH ORGANISATIONS AND OF CARITAS.
4. MEMBER OF CHANCERY WAS TOLD TODAY BY A CHURCH PRESS SPOKESMAN THAT THE PAP REPORT CONSTITUTED AN AGREED COMMUNIQUE. HE COULD NOT ADD ANYTHING TO IT. BUT IT WAS SIGNIFICANT THAT THE MEETING HAD CONCENTRATED ALMOST ENTIRELY ON MATTERS WHICH WERE NOT DIRECTLY THE CONCERN OF THE CHURCH. THE CHURCH'S AIM AT THE MEETING HAD BEEN TO CONVINCING THE GOVERNMENT OF THE NEED FOR DIALOGUE WITH ALL SECTIONS OF SOCIETY. WHEN HARRISON ASKED WHETHER THE CHURCH THOUGHT THAT DIALOGUE BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT AND SOLIDARITY WAS

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LIKELY IN THE NEAR FUTURE, THE SPOKEMAN SAID THAT THE CHURCH CONTINUED TO HOPE SO. BUT HE GAVE THE IMPRESSION THAT IT WAS UNLIKELY.

5. THE CHURCH HAS ENDORSED THE GOVERNMENT'S PLEA FOR MORE ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE. THIS IS LARGELY A COSMETIC CONCESSION IN THAT THE CHURCH HAS ALWAYS BELIEVED AND STATED THAT THE WEST SHOULD CONTINUE HUMANITARIAN AID. IN RETURN, THE GOVERNMENT HAS ALLOWED INTO THE COMMUNIQUE A PHRASE ABOUT VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS. IT HAS ALSO TOLD THE CHURCH WHAT JAURUZELSKI INTENDS TO ANNOUNCE AT THE SEJM NEXT MONDAY. THE CHURCH IS THUS CONTINUING ITS POLICY OF FIRM PUBLIC STATEMENTS OF ITS POSITION (GLEMP'S SERMON ON SUNDAY) AND REALISTIC DIALOGUE WITH THE GOVERNMENT (ESTERDAY'S MEETING).

6. A MEETING OF DIOCESAN BISHOPS IS TAKING PLACE IN WARSAW TODAY. THIS IS AN EXTRAORDINARY AND UNOFFICIAL MEETING WHICH DOES NOT CONSTITUTE A FULL EPISCOPAL CONFERENCE. IT IS EXPECTED TO LAUNCH AN APPEAL FOR HUMANITARIAN AID.

FCO PLEASE PASS SAVING TO ALL SAVING ADDRESSEES

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