

GRS 198

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FROM HOLY SEE 131300Z JUL 82

TO ROUTINE FCO

TELNO 39 OF 13 JUL 82

INFO ROUTINE WARSAW , ROME (ACTIONED)

THE POPE'S VISIT TO POLAND

1. ARCHBISHOP POGGI HAS TOLD REPRESENTATIVES OF EC MISSIONS HERE THAT THE POPE WILL NOT VISIT POLAND IN AUGUST. AN ANNOUNCEMENT WILL BE MADE SHORTLY. MGR GLEMP IS ON HOLIDAY AND PLANS TO RETURN TO POLAND ON 22 JULY. IN A TELEVISED INTERVIEW YESTERDAY HE MAINTAINED THE VATICAN'S LINE THAT THE VISIT WAS ON BUT THE DATE UNCERTAIN.

2. POGGI TOLD ME THAT IN HIS TALK WITH CZYREK LAST MONTH LATTER HAD MAINTAINED THAT THE GOVERNMENT COULD NOT POSSIBLY IMPLEMENT CHANGES BY AUGUST NOR COULD THEY IGNORE THE TWO AWKWARD ANNIVERSARIES ON THE 13TH AND THE 30TH OF THAT MONTH. SO THE AUGUST DATES WERE NON-STARTERS. GLEMP IS FULLY IN AGREEMENT WITH THE DECISION TO POSTPONE THE VISIT AS, ACCORDING TO POGGI, ARE THE POLISH BISHOPS AS A WHOLE. HE ATTRIBUTED THE OPTIMISTIC TONE OF THE POLISH EPISCOPATE'S INVITATION OF 8 JUNE TO DABROWSKI WHO WAS IN ROME THE DAY BEFORE IT ISSUED.

3. THE POINT IMMEDIATELY AT ISSUE IS WHETHER THE ANNOUNCEMENT WILL INCLUDE A NEW DATE. OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER ARE ALREADY PARTLY COMMITTED (SPAIN). THE VATICAN ARE AIMING FOR A SPRING DATE, POSSIBLY IN APRIL.

HEATH

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