

Poland

PRIME MINISTER

The Polish Ambassador came into the Foreign Office today to protest about the activities of Alastair Hutton, MEP, on a recent visit to Poland.

I understand that Mr. Hutton made fairly public contact with a number of dissidents, and that he claimed he was doing so with your authority and encouragement.

We will get a fuller report on this after the weekend, but you may like to be aware of the Polish complaint in case it is publicised. My understanding is that you have not had any special meeting with Mr. Hutton and indeed that he is not amongst the MEPs whom you know particularly well. But he may perhaps have mentioned his trip to Poland to you when the MEPs came in for a drink. You would no doubt have given him some encouragement to find out what Poles outside Government were thinking.

MA

8 August 1980

I do not know Mr. Hutton personally but would certainly be pleased if he made contact with "dissidents" on his visit. The very word condemns the governments of your countries. pub