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FM WARSAW 061015Z FEB
TO IMMEDIATE FCO
TELEGRAM NUMBER 92 OF 6 FEB.

INFO IMMEDIATE WASHINGTON PARIS BONN UKDEL NATO MOSCOW

MOSCOW TELNO 65: POLAND

1. I FULLY AGREE THAT THE SLIDE TO ANARCHY IN POLAND IS REACHING SUCH A POINT THAT THE SOVIET UNION MAY FIND IT IMPOSSIBLE NOT TO INTERVENE.
2. AT THE SAME TIME WE MUST RECOGNISE THAT IF INVASION AND ITS CONSEQUENCES FOR THE WORLD ARE TO BE AVOIDED SOLIDARITY HAS A PART TO PLAY TOO. THERE IS AN INCREASING SECTION OF POLISH OPINION WHICH, ENCOURAGED BY PRESIDENT REAGAN'S RECENT STATEMENTS (WHICH ARE CAREFULLY REPRODUCED IN THE SOLIDARITY NEWSPAPER), WANTS TO PRESS ON AND DAMN THE CONSEQUENCES, HOPING FOR WORLD WAR III TO RESCUE POLAND, RATHER AS MANY POLES BETWEEN 1815 AND 1914 LONGED AND WORKED FOR A EUROPEAN WAR. A FURTHER PUBLIC WARNING MIGHT BE SALUTORY FOR THE RUSSIANS BUT IT WOULD ENCOURAGE THOSE POLES AT PRECISELY THE TIME WHEN MODERATION ON THEIR PART IS NEEDED.
3. I THEREFORE RECOMMEND THAT ANY SUCH WARNING SHOULD BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN INDICATION FROM THE WEST, WHICH MEANS EFFECTIVELY THE AMERICANS, THAT WHILE WE HAVE THE GREATEST SYMPATHY WITH THE ASPIRATIONS OF THE POLISH PEOPLE, IF POLAND IS TO BE SAVED THEY MUST HAVE REGARD TO POLITICAL REALITY AND NOT SEEK TO DO EVERYTHING AT ONCE.

PRIDHAM

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