

POLAND

Free trade union leaders are to begin discussions today on how to deal with the Polish Government, following a Warsaw court's unilateral alteration of their organization's charter on Friday.

The court's action represents a shift in the tactics of the government, which has avoided doing anything provocative. The government may believe it is now strong enough to take the initiative away from the unions, or it may feel that by accepting the union's charter unaltered it would anger the USSR and other Warsaw Pact members.

Polish workers and intellectuals are indignant over the court's action, and some are interpreting it as evidence of the uselessness of attempting to work within the system and of the regime's intent to renege on hard-won gains. Some union leaders previously had urged setting a deadline for a general strike to force the regime to register their organization. The court's action, therefore, is likely to convert other union leaders to this position. Union leader Walesa said the unions will now appeal to the Supreme Court.

Some moderate union leaders, probably including Walesa, will be reluctant to commit the unions to a collision with the government and will urge less drastic actions than a general strike. Walesa has talked in the past about unspecified demonstrations and boycotts of the government-controlled press.

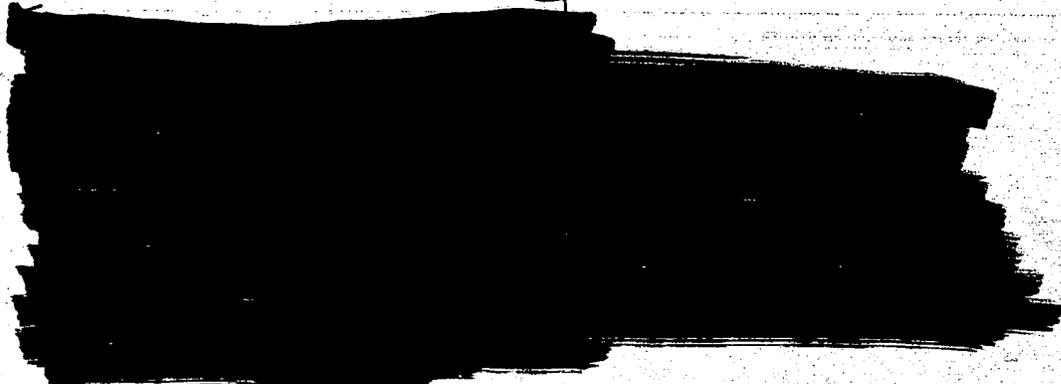
It may take several days for union leaders to work out a new strategy. Severe pressure will be placed on their cohesion, and wildcat strikes could break out around the country.

Polish journalists, in the meantime, will be gathering in Warsaw on Wednesday for a special congress. The delegates will probably voice their support for the unions. They will also be urging alterations in Poland's censorship practices, which will present the regime with another sensitive issue.

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Kirilenko Ends Visit to Czechoslovakia

Soviet Politburo member Kirilenko left Czechoslovakia yesterday after a four-day visit, during which he made veiled allusions in several speeches to the Polish situation. A Czechoslovak press report on Kirilenko's meeting Saturday with President Husak noted that the two agreed on a number of issues. The report, however, also referred to "some problems of cooperation" between the two "fraternal parties and countries"--probably an allusion to disagreements between Moscow and Prague over industrial specialization and cooperation within the Council for Economic Mutual Assistance. 

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