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POLAND

Party leader Kania met last night for the first time with free trade union leader Walesa to discuss the current socioeconomic situation and Solidarity's participation in the development of the country.

We do not know who asked for the meeting, but it indicates that both men believe there is a need to establish a constructive working relationship. Kania probably emphasized to Walesa the need to reestablish stability and to increase the productivity of the work force. Walesa probably emphasized that most current problems were of the regime's own making and that it will find itself fighting brushfires as long as it refuses to meet legitimate wage demands or tries to harass Solidarity.

Popular Unrest

The continuing unrest in Gdansk and Czestochowa was probably a major topic of the meeting. The Gdansk sit-in strike by doctors, health and education workers, and medical students is in its 10th day at the provincial government's headquarters; Polish students throughout the country may be prepared to support the strikers more actively. Solidarity, according to several reports, has also threatened sympathy strikes if the regime does not agree to wage demands.

In Czestochowa, regional leaders of Solidarity are now demanding the dismissal of the provincial governor for his harassment of the union's activities. Talks between the union and the provincial party first secretary have been broken off, and union leaders have threatened to call a "strike alert" if the central government refuses to send a representative to mediate the four-day-old dispute.

Soviet Attitude

Moscow has remained silent on the Polish Supreme Court's decision on Monday that was favorable to Solidarity. This public approach is consistent with Moscow's past tactic of ignoring or obscuring the growing power of Solidarity.

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Soviet commentary about Poland has been limited to a reiteration of Polish statements, such as Premier Pinkowski's portrayal last Tuesday of the country's economic problems. The effect has been to indicate that "antisocialist forces" are still at work but that the Polish party is trying to resolve the crisis.

The Soviets nevertheless are deeply disturbed by the regime's capitulation. Moscow had apparently hoped that Kania would be able to extract significant concessions from the unions. President Brezhnev's reception of the Polish leader in Moscow just before the crucial late-October negotiations with Solidarity and Moscow's collaboration in announcing joint military maneuvers on the eve of the Court's decision indicate that the USSR was attempting to bolster the regime's hand.

The government's sudden reversal, as well as the internal disarray that accompanied it, may have seriously shaken Soviet confidence in Kania. If Soviet concern is to be translated into direct pressure from Moscow on the Kania regime, it may become apparent this weekend. Major Soviet pronouncements on Poland, notably absent for the past five weeks, usually follow by a few days the Soviet Politburo meeting each Thursday.

Soviet Military Activity

Recently observed activities by Soviet forces in the western USSR heighten concern regarding possible Soviet preparations for intervention in Poland. We believe, however, that these activities are probably routine and that no invasion is imminent.

██████████ reported seeing nearly 2,000 Soviet troops of various service components on Tuesday and Wednesday at a rail station in Brest near the Polish border. The troops, most of which had already served their two-year tour of duty and had East German stickers on their luggage, were reportedly awaiting trains en route to East Germany. These personnel were apparently not reservists being sent to fill out understrength units in East Germany but were most likely reenlistees returning from home leave. It is possible, but less likely, that they have had their tours extended involuntarily.

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In other activity in the western USSR, major components of a low-strength motorized rifle division located at Vladimir Volynskiy in the Carpathian Military District have been [REDACTED] leaving their garrison since Tuesday. Most of the components are in an adjacent training area where we believe routine postrotation activity could be taking place. This division, which would probably participate in any intervention force, would have to mobilize a substantial number of troops and equipment to become combat ready. [REDACTED]

There is no evidence of other significant military activity taking place in the western USSR. [REDACTED]

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