

NID 81-

February 11, 1981

SITUATION REPORT

POLAND

The Polish Supreme Court's rejection of the farmers' bid for registration of their union has been taken in stride by Solidarity and the farmers.

Walesa and the farm leaders have rejected for the time being the use of strikes to press the issue, with Walesa appealing for calm "so that no one can accuse us of trying to unsettle things."

The farmers intend, instead, to seek a new trade union law that would provide a legal basis for their union. Some farmers rejected the Court's proposal that they form an "association" because they believe the latter gives them fewer rights under Polish law.

The farmers had indicated earlier that they expected their appeal to be rejected. Their subdued response may also reflect the counsel of Cardinal Wyszynski last Friday that they press their grievances in a "prudent" way.

Meanwhile, strike activity in Poland has fallen into a temporary lull. Following the resolution of the general strike in Jelenia Gora, the government announced agreement with students striking in Lodz. Unconfirmed press reports claim that the student strike in Poznan has also been settled.

Parliamentary approval of Defense Minister Jaruzelski as Prime Minister today seems likely to be followed by further governmental changes. A Polish official told [redacted] that Jaruzelski will appoint a prominent party liberal, Mieczyslaw Rakowski, as his main deputy. Jaruzelski may feel that Rakowski can provide him with useful political advice and can serve as a useful reassurance to the liberal wing of the party.

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Military Situation

There has been no evidence of any major deployments by Soviet or Warsaw Pact forces.

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Evidence of mobilization has been noted in one of the seven divisions [REDACTED] in the western USSR during the past week.

[REDACTED]

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