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CIACO NID 81 [REDACTED]

April 17, 1981

CIA LATE ITEM

POLAND: Tentative Agreement on Farmers' Union

Farmers and government negotiators meeting in Bydgoszcz have worked out a draft agreement legalizing a farmers' union, according to press reports. The Minister for Trade Union Affairs and the Deputy Minister for Agriculture made a quick trip to the area where farmer protests began after the six-week-old sit-in spread to a nearby town. The Polish Supreme Court late last year refused to sanction the registration of a farmers' union, but since then the government has been searching for a face-saving way to recognize such a union. [REDACTED]

The farmers have indicated they will continue their sit-in until the government establishes their union by law. Until now the government has used the lack of such a law to sidestep the issue. [REDACTED]

Approved for Release  
Date AUG ~~1999~~

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