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CIACO NID 81 [REDACTED]

August 04, 1981

POLAND: More Demonstrations Ahead

*With little prospect that demonstrations planned for the next several days--particularly those in Warsaw--can be sidetracked, a miscalculation by either police or workers could result in the first physical confrontation in the 13-month-old crisis.* [REDACTED]

Solidarity leader Walesa and Deputy Premier Rakowski adjourned their talks yesterday without progress on worker demands concerning the alleviation of food shortages or the restoration of the full meat rations for this month. The talks are not slated to resume until Thursday, after the two-hour general strike tomorrow in the capital. [REDACTED]

Walesa probably told Rakowski that the avalanche of anger against the regime cannot be turned aside, especially because the government has nothing to offer. He probably urged Rakowski to control the regime's response and suggested that after the populace vents its anger the two sides work out a compromise. Walesa may also have pointed out that the tough statements by the Politburo, the government's Presidium, and the Military Council over the weekend were ineffective and even counter-productive. [REDACTED]

Demonstrators and the regime are locked in a potentially dangerous situation in Warsaw. The authorities yesterday stopped a procession of trucks from parading past party headquarters, and [REDACTED] some brief scuffles occurred. The Solidarity leadership declared that the trucks now blocking a major downtown intersection will remain there until tomorrow when the union will decide on further forms of protest. Some in the regime will argue that such a lengthy obstruction of traffic cannot be tolerated, and in the volatile situation that now exists, police and workers may wind up in a donnybrook. [REDACTED]

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