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CIACO NID 81 [REDACTED]

August 31, 1981

POLAND: Increased Access to Media for Solidarity

The government's offer to Solidarity over the weekend of increased radio and television exposure may ease tensions temporarily but does not meet the union's basic demand that it be given independent control over some programming. The government offered a half-hour program tomorrow for union leader Walesa to present Solidarity's viewpoints and a half-hour program on Friday for a Solidarity press conference. Solidarity will participate in the production of the programs, but the regime will retain overall control. [REDACTED]

Negotiations will continue today on media coverage of Solidarity's congress that begins on Saturday. As an initial bargaining position, the union demanded two hours of daily coverage but probably will settle for less. The key issue, however, will be Solidarity's demand for editorial control over the coverage, which the government probably will refuse. [REDACTED]

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