

~~Top Secret~~

POLAND: Warning Against Resistance

The regime has warned it will retaliate against increased resistance. Government pressure on private farmers to sell livestock to the state is likely to intensify because of reduced livestock numbers in the socialized sector.

A government press spokesman yesterday explicitly warned that increased resistance to martial law would lead to greater repression. He condemned the widespread use of the "sinister" slogan "The winter is yours, but the spring will be ours" as the battle cry of those who are ready to "slaughter" Poland.

Comment: Media reports of a widespread police sweep last week, criticism of the Church, and this latest warning are aimed at reinforcing the impression that the regime will use whatever force is necessary to maintain its control. At a minimum, the government does not want the expectation of greater resistance in the spring to become a self-fulfilling prophesy.

Livestock Holdings

Warsaw announced this week that the number of privately owned livestock at the end of 1981 was higher than in December 1980. Private holdings of cattle and pigs increased by 7.3 percent and 10 percent, respectively. The socialized sector, meanwhile, had reduced its cattle herds by 14 percent and hogs by 18 percent.

The refusal of many farmers to sell livestock to the state in 1981 forced state farms to draw down their holdings to help meet the regime's rationing commitment. State herds are now at their lowest level in over five years.

Comment: The government plans to keep meat imports to one-third of the level of last year and consequently will feel compelled to put increased pressure on private farmers to sell to the state to cover its meat rationing commitment.

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