

~~Top Secret~~  
[REDACTED]

POLAND: Future Status of Solidarity

*The regime, despite some mixed signals, probably has not yet made a final decision on when to withdraw Solidarity's legal status.*  
[REDACTED]

Archbishop Glemp told [REDACTED] yesterday he fears that if the regime abolishes Solidarity, "there would be a revolution." He believes the present time is the most volatile since martial law was imposed and says he may have to cancel his visit to the US--scheduled to begin in two weeks--if the government closes down the union. The Church has cautioned the regime against doing so. [REDACTED]

Several senior media spokesmen have told [REDACTED] they expect Solidarity to be dissolved in the near future. An editor of a moderate weekly predicted that another round of serious street disturbances would be one outcome of parliament's deliberations on unions. The parliament is slated to meet on 8 October, and there is much public speculation that it will pass a new trade union law. [REDACTED]

Meanwhile, the Polish press has printed some mildly positive comments on Solidarity. It also has reported polls showing Solidarity still has strong support throughout the country. [REDACTED]

Comment: Members of the Church and of Solidarity have criticized Archbishop Glemp in the past for his willingness to compromise with the government. His latest remarks, however, indicate he is determined to stand up to the regime. [REDACTED]

Premier Jaruzelski may decide to push for passage of trade union legislation, arguing that this issue will have to be resolved before martial law is ended. He still appears intent on carrying out his pledge in July to restore civilian rule by the end of the year if conditions warrant. [REDACTED]

Some in the regime evidently are confident the authorities can easily contain any reactions to formal abolition. Nevertheless, there seems to be a clear awareness of the possible dangers, and some delay in the passage of legislation would be consistent with the government's step-by-step approach. [REDACTED]

5

~~Top Secret~~  
[REDACTED]

1 October 1982

Approved for Release  
Date AUG 1993

521