

November 3, 1962

Telegram from Polish Embassy in Washington (Drozniak), 3 November 1962

Citation:

"Telegram from Polish Embassy in Washington (Drozniak), 3 November 1962", November 3, 1962, Wilson Center Digital Archive, Szyfrogramy from Waszyngton 1962, 6/77 w-86 t-1312, Polish Foreign Ministry Archive (AMSZ), Warsaw. Obtained by James G. Hershberg (George Washington University) and translated by Margaret K. Gnoinska (Troy University). <https://wilson-center-digital-archive.dvincitest.com/document/115780>

Summary:

In a conversation between Drozniak and Deputy Special Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs Walt Rostow, Rostow compares "the initial stages of the armed conflict in Cuba to the [Japanese attacks on] Pearl Harbor [on 7 December 1941]. [He said that President] Kennedy was ready for war. The most pressing issue at the moment is a quick removal of the [Soviet] missiles from Cuba."

Credits:

This document was made possible with support from Leon Levy Foundation

Original Language:

Polish

Contents:

Translation - English

Ciphergram No. 16212

Dispatched from Washington, D.C., on 11.03.1962 at 16:00 and received on 04.11.1962 at 01:50

Came to the Decoding Department on 04.11.1962 at 01:55

To: [Foreign Ministry Director Eugeniusz] MILNIKIEL1 and [Juliusz] KATZ-SUCHY2

From: [Ambassador Edward] DROŻNIAK3

/From the conversation between [Mieczyslaw] Rakowski4 and [Deputy Special Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs Walt] Rostow/.

R.[ostow] compared the initial stages of the armed conflict in Cuba to the [Japanese attacks on] Pearl Harbor [on 7 December 1941]. [He said that President] Kennedy was ready for war. The most pressing issue at the moment is a quick removal of the [Soviet] missiles from Cuba. The Americans are ready for serious disarmament talks and they are interested especially in reaching a treaty on the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons. They [the Americans] are not planning on giving them [nuclear weapons] to the [West] Germans. [Rostow said that] this state of affairs would be difficult to maintain in case other countries [also] obtained nuclear weapons.

By dispatch to Moscow

[1] Eugeniusz Milnikiel (1905 -1969), former Polish ambassador to Great Britain (1953 -1956).

[2] Julisz Katz-Suchy (1912 - 1971), former Polish ambassador to the United Nations and ambassador to India (1957-1962).

[3] Edward Drożniak (1902 - 1966), Poland's ambassador to the United States (1961-1966).

[4] Mieczyslaw Rakowski (1926 - 2008), Editor-in-Chief of Polityka weekly.