

October 19, 1981

**Memorandum from John Stein to the Secretaries of
State and Defense and Director of National Security,
'Current Political Situation in Poland'**

Citation:

"Memorandum from John Stein to the Secretaries of State and Defense and Director of National Security, 'Current Political Situation in Poland'", October 19, 1981, Wilson Center Digital Archive, CIA declassification, 2008
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Summary:

Translation updates the situation between the Polish military and the Central Committee Plenum and describes a situation where the General of Arms fell ill.

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[Redacted]

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

19 October 1981

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Secretary of State
The Secretary of Defense
Assistant to the President for
National Security Affairs
Director, National Security Agency
FROM : John H. Stein
Deputy Director for Operations
SUBJECT : Current Political Situation in Poland

[Redacted]

1. [Redacted] Comment: The following information is from an extremely sensitive source and, therefore, recipients should hold this report very closely.]
2. A reliable source who has excellent access in the Polish Ministry of Defense reported that as of 17 October the Polish military are on alert status in case matters at the Central Committee Plenum take an "unfavorable turn". In the event a liberal leadership is appointed, the military will not support it. If the character of the PZPR becomes social democratic, the military will not accept the PZPR in a role of leadership over the military.
3. On 15 October General of Arms Siwicki, Chief of the Polish General Staff, coordinated the text of his speech for the Plenum presentation with Jaruzelski. After he left the Prime Minister's residence, Siwicki fainted and was taken home and is under a doctor's care. The final version of Siwicki's speech was drafted without attacks against the Party. [Redacted] Comment: See FIRDB-312/03245-81, dated 13 October 1981, from the same source, which indicated that an earlier draft of Siwicki's speech contained attacks against the Party.]

FIRDB-312/03291-81

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[Redacted]

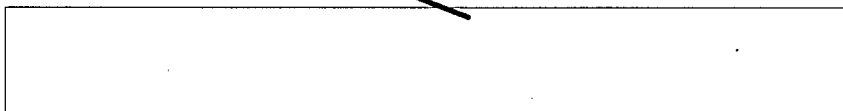
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4. The Prime Minister will present to the Sejm his draft of an anti-crisis law, which in reality will be the law on Martial Law.

5. There is some information reaching the Ministry of Defense that an "uprising" is developing among junior officers [not further defined].

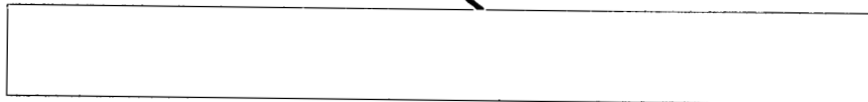


~~John H. Stein~~

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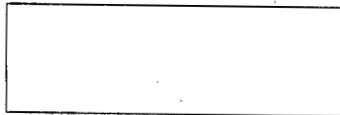
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