

WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

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SIT678

DTG: 261341Z DEC 81 PSN: 008610
TOR: 360/1523Z

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WHSR COMMENT: C H E C K L I S T

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DE RUEHTH #0924 3601341
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FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

NLRR M07020 #30806
BY CU NARA DATE 10/25/07

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 7185

~~SECRET~~ ATHENS 20924

NODIS

E.O. 12065: RDS-1 12/26/01 (STEARNS, M.) OR-M
TAGS: PL, UR, PINT, NATO
SUBJECT: PRIME MINISTER PAPANDEOU'S REEPPONSE TO
- PRESIDENT REAGAN
REF: A) ATHENS 20922, B) STATE 33901

1. ~~SECRET~~ - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. FOLLOWING IS TEXT (CLASSIFIED SECRET BY GOG) OF
PRIME MINITER PAPANDEOU'S RESPONSE TO PRESIDENT
REAGAN'S LETTER ON POLAND (STATE 339301). II WAS
DELIVERED TO EMBASSY TODAY (DEC. 26) AT 1440 LOCAL.
SIGNED ORIGINAL WILL BE POUCHED.

3. BEGIN TEXT

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT:

I WAS PLEASED TO RECEIVE YOUR LETTER OF DECEMBER
24TH, AS WELL AS THE TWO ENCLOSURES (LETTER TO
GENERAL JARUZELSKI AND LETTER TO PRESIDENT BREZHNEV).

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I AM FULLY IN AGREEMENT WITH YOU, THAT IT IS ESSENTIAL TO MAKE CLEAR TO BOTH THE POLISH AUTHORITIES AND THE USSR THAT THE REPRESSION IN POLAND MUST CEASE AND THAT A GENUINE EFFORT MUST BE UNDERTAKEN TO REACH A NATIONAL RECONCILIATION.

IT IS IN THIS SPIRIT THAT I JOINED MY PARTNERS IN THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY IN A DEMARCHE (BY THE PRESIDENCY REPRESENTATIVE) IN WARSAW. THE RELEVANT TEXT IS AS FOLLOWS: "THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE TEN HAVE READ WITH GREAT CONCERN THE NUMEROUS REPORTS OF THE SUPPRESSION OF TRADE UNION RIGHTS, INTERNMENT, INHUMAN CONDITIONS OF DETENTION AND EVEN DEATHS IN POLAND IN RECENT DAYS. THEY DENOUNCE THE GRAVE VIOLATION OF THE HUMAN AND CIVIL RIGHTS OF THE POLISH PEOPLE WHICH IS IMPLIED IN THESE REPORTS. THEY HAVE NOTED THE MILITARY COUNCIL'S STATED DESIRE TO RETURN TO RENEWAL AND REFORM, BUT ARE CONCERNED THAT THIS STATED AIM SEEMS DIFFICULT TO RECONCILE WITH THE ACTUAL SITUATION. IN THEIR (EARLIER) DECLARATION OF DECEMBER 15 THEIR FOREIGN MINISTRIES MADE CLEAR THEIR VIEWS. THE TEN CONSIDER THAT THEY MUST NOW EXPRESS THE GROWING CONCERN SHARED BY PUBLIC OPINION AND GOVERNMENTS ABOUT DEVELOPMENTS IN POLAND. MOREOVER, THEY CONSIDER THAT IN EUROPE, WHERE MUTUAL TRUST IS BASED ON RESPECT OF THE HELSINKI FINAL ACT, THE CURRENT REPRESSION IN POLAND CONSTITUTES CLEAR VIOLATION OF THE FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES OF THIS ACT WHICH THEY CANNOT IGNORE."

THE GREEK GOVERNMENT HAD MADE A SIMILAR DECLARATION A FEW DAYS PRIOR TO THE DEMARCH BY THE TEN.

I AM VERY PLEASED TO NOTE THAT THE FIRM STANCE AND STRONG ACTION TO WHICH YOU REFER IN YOUR LETTER DO NOT IMPLY (AT LEAST AT PRESENT) A WITHDRAWAL FROM THE ARMS CONTROL PROCESSES IN WHICH YOU ARE CURRENTLY ENGAGED. FOR, AS YOU WELL KNOW, THERE IS A RATHER WIDESPREAD FEELING IN EUROPE THAT THE

~~SECRET~~

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CONTINUATION OF ARMS CONTROL NEGOTIATIONS IS OF DECISIVE IMPORTANCE IN PREVENTING A TOTAL, FRONTAL CONFRONTATION BETWEEN NATO AND THE WARSAW PACT. YOU ARE FULLY JUSTIFIED WHEN YOU STATE THAT THE USSR IS DEEPLY COMPLICIT IN THE RECENT TRAGIC DEVELOPMENTS IN POLAND. THE USSR DIRECTIVES TO THE MILITARY COUNCIL IN POLAND ARE ACCOMPANIED BY THE THREAT OF A DIRECT MILITARY INTERVENTION WHICH COULD WELL LEAD TO A BLOODY CONFRONTATION AND TO THE COMPLETE ANNIHILATION OF THE POLISH NATION. FINALLY, I SHARE YOUR VIEW THAT WE SHOULD JOIN IN SUCH MEASURES AS WOULD MAXIMIZE THE CHANCES FOR A PEACEFUL EVOLUTION IN POLAND THROUGH A PROCESS OF NATIONAL RECONCILIATION. SINCERELY, ANDREAS G. PAPANDREOU. END TEXT. STEARNS

BT