

# NEWS

22 July 1983



Belgium

## DECLARATION CONCERNING THE LIFTING OF THE STATE OF WAR IN POLAND

The Polish Parliament today revoked the state of war. At the same time, the Parliament adopted a series of constitutional amendments and a law giving the Government special transitional powers until 1985. In view of these developments, the Coordinating Office Abroad of NSZZ "Solidarnosc", reiterating the position of the Temporary Coordinating Commission (TKK) and the leader of our Union, Lech Walesa, emphatically declares that the lifting of the state of war on 22 July 1983, in no way restores the legal framework prevailing between September 1980 and December 1981. NSZZ "Solidarnosc" and other trade unions remain outside the law even though they are still considered by the majority of Poles to be the only representatives and defenders of workers' rights. All the repressive measures directed at creative arts associations introduced during the state of war remain intact, whereas the powers with which the state administration is now endowed eliminate what little autonomy was enjoyed by these associations and by centers of higher learning.

The law on "social parasitism" remains in effect. Because of the state's monopoly over employment, this law makes it possible to use its shameful provisions against persons blacklisted due to their union activity and their political views. Permanent restrictions on workers' rights have been introduced, preventive censorship of the press, of publishing activities and of entertainment has been tightened, the powers of the police and security services have been significantly strengthened.

We welcome with joy the release of any political

prisoner. It must be noted however, that the lifting of the state of war is not accompanied by the anticipated general amnesty. The announced amnesty does not apply to the activists of the Confederation for an Independent Poland (KPN), the former Workers' Defense Committee (KOR), or the leaders and activists of NSZZ "Solidarnosc" who are arbitrarily designated as extremists by the authorities.

The Coordinating Office Abroad of NSZZ "Solidarnosc" once again calls to the attention of governments and banks, Poland's creditors, that the fundamental socio-political conditions needed for genuine economic reform have not been set in motion. Therefore, unconditional loans to Poland cannot bring about positive economic results but will only increase the burden on society of repaying the country's debts, even though society is not responsible for them.

The Office also asserts that the consolidation and reinforcement of emergency legislation negates the claims by official propaganda of "normalisation". Society's resistance has not been broken. The struggle for the release of all political prisoners, for the restoration of trade union rights and for the fulfillment of the Gdansk Agreement goes on, and will continue in the future.

The Office appeals to the free trade union movement and to public opinion in all democratic countries to continue supporting, politically and materially, authentic trade unions and independent organisations in Poland.

Brussels, 22 July 1983  
Coordinating Office Abroad of NSZZ "Solidarnosc"

## TKK DECLARATIONS

TADEUSZ JEDYNAK, President of the Regional Executive Commission of NSZZ "Solidarnosc", Slask-Dabrowski Region, has joined the Temporary Coordinating Commission (TKK). The announcement was made in a declaration issued by the TKK on 3 July, 1983 and signed by all its members.

### TKK DECLARATION NO.2

IN RELATION TO STATEMENTS by government representatives on the possibility of lifting the state of war and on the "implementation of adequate humanitarian and legal solutions", the Temporary Coordinating Commission of NSZZ "Solidarnosc" declares that:

1) In the present situation, the formal lifting of the state of war, without the repeal of legislation introduced under its aegis, will only be a symbolic gesture of no serious political consequence. The legislation introduced during the state of war renders impossible all independent initiatives and social activity, and guarantees powers to the authorities equal to those under the state of war.

2) The possibility of an amnesty for persons sentenced under the state of war decree for defending

basic workers' rights and civil liberties, to which society is entitled, will not be an act of clemency, but simply the restoration of freedom to those illegally deprived of it.

3) To date, the intentions of the authorities were manifested in a system of government that destroyed all the gains of August 1980. The power of the authorities rested on the prohibition of all independent trade union activity and of the activities of the creative arts associations, on brutal repression, the rule of police terror; and the submersion of the country into a socio-economic crisis.

4) Society's trust cannot be built on the rubble of August '80. This was evidenced by the stance of the people during the state of war, and by the fact that society carried out the tasks set out in the union programme: the front of refusal was widespread, there was mass participation in "Solidarnosc" anniversaries and in May Day marches. Furthermore, millions of persons demonstrated their support for "Solidarnosc" during the Holy Father's visit.

5) Our continuing struggle for workers' and civil rights will be shaped by the degree of politi-

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cal realism shown by the authorities. The purely formal lifting of the state of war and an amnesty will not induce us to abandon further activity.

3 July 1983

Temporary Coordinating Commission of NSZZ  
"Solidarnosc"

-Zbigniew Bujak / Mazowsze Region  
-Wladyslaw Hardek / Malopolska Region  
-Tadeusz Jedynek / Slask-Dabrowski Region  
-Bogdan Lis / Gdansk Region  
-Eugeniusz Szumiejko / member of the National  
Commission Presidium

note: Witold, President of the Lower Silesia Regional Strike Committee, took part in the meeting.

### TKK DECLARATION NO.3

THE HOLY FATHER'S VISIT to his homeland was a period of great religious, moral, and social emotion. His words will remain forever engraved in our hearts and minds. The Pope's visit gave true meaning to the words Truth, Freedom, and Justice. It united all of those who, regardless of faith, treasure national sovereignty, social identity, human dignity and the value of man's labour, and the right to free association. During the Holy Father's visit, millions of Poles voiced their common will and their faith in the victory of these values, in the victory of good over evil. The future of our nation depends on how rapidly these values, cherished by all Poles, form the basis of social and political life in our country. As the Holy Father stressed in his words to us, a return to these values requires determination, courage and perseverance in our activities.

3 July 1983

Temporary Coordinating Commission of NSZZ  
"Solidarnosc"

(signatures as in preceding declaration)

ANDRZEJ GWIAZDA, MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL COMMISSION, is reported seriously ill in prison. Interned 13 Dec. 1981, he was arrested on 22 Dec. 1982 and is being held in Mokotow prison (Warsaw) awaiting trial. Gwiazda has for many years suffered from ulcers and other disorders, some of which have been aggravated by conditions in jail. He lost all his teeth last year while interned at Bialoleka, as he wasn't allowed to see a dentist. Gwiazda requires treatment by specialists, but he hasn't been admitted to the prison hospital. His condition causes him great abdominal pain and discomfort. He isn't permitted to lie down in his cell during the day; he hasn't been able to obtain boiled drinking water, needed for treating his kidney stones; medication sent by his family was lost by the authorities.

372 OF GWIAZDA'S WORKMATES at the Elmor enterprises have called for his release. In a letter to the Cabinet, they accuse the regime of trying to finish off militant "Solidarnosc" activists, despite claims of liberalization. They express concern over Gwiazda's (and others') state of health, saying that for him, suspension of martial law has meant formal arrest and transferral to a prison where conditions are far worse than during internment. The letter also notes the effectiveness of protest actions, saying that several political prisoners have been released as a result of public pressure.

(note: Recent reports indicate that the state of health of JACEK KURON and SEWERYN JAWORSKI has also seriously deteriorated. Both men were among top NSZZ "Solidarnosc" activists and advisors; they were interned in December 1981, and are now awaiting trial on charges of attempting to overthrow the state by force. They are not covered by the amnesty.)

POLAND: INSTITUTIONALISATION OF ABNORMALITY. "The web of restrictive regulations, tight control of the labour movement, and institutionalised violations of basic trade union and human rights, incorporated in Poland's new dispensation replacing 19 months of martial law, will do nothing to ease the mistrust between the Polish people and their government, and constitutes a mere institutionalisation of abnormality", John Vanderveken, General Secretary of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, said after the lifting of martial law today. "The ICFTU is deeply concerned about the continuous imprisonment of top Solidarity leaders and advisors, and scores of detained trade unionists, whose numbers are certainly considerably higher than admitted by the authorities" added Vanderveken.

"The ICFTU will thus continue mobilising all its affiliated organisations to press for the release of all trade unionists in Poland, for the full restoration of trade union and human rights, emphasising that only a return to the spirit of the Gdansk agreements, based on genuine dialogue between the authorities and the workers' legitimate representatives, can lead to normalisation, social and economic progress and stability. It is only through such normalisation that the Polish Government will be seen to abide by its international obligations, as embodied in the ILO Conventions, Helsinki and Madrid Agreements", concluded Vanderveken.

-Brussels, 22 July 1983

THE COORDINATING OFFICE ABROAD of NSZZ "Solidarnosc" expressly denies the contents of a forged letter allegedly emanating from this Office. The document, dated May 26, was recently circulated to Polish ethnic groupings. Speaking in the name of the leadership in Poland of NSZZ "Solidarnosc", it calls for the formation of 'Solidarity International', because, it is said, "Solidarnosc" no longer exists. In Poland, the security forces (SB) often fabricate underground "Solidarnosc" publications, and have even been known to transmit false broadcasts of Radio Solidarnosc (eg: attempts by the authorities to call off May Day protest marches, broadcast as Radio Solidarnosc in April). This is just one of the tactics used in the psychological war being waged by the authorities.

POLITICAL PURGES IN ACADEMIC CIRCLES were denounced by the Gdansk School of Engineering Underground Gazette, no. 12, 16-23 June 1983. The editors appeal to the academic community to unite in opposition to 'political verifications' by the Ministry of Science, Higher Education and Technology, and directed at universities. The Ministry's General Director said in a speech in February that the verification undertaken in 1982 did not result in the internal "stabilization" of the universities, nor in their complete participation in the realization of state policies. On 15 April 83, the Minister announced an evaluation of the administrative cadre during May and June by a Commission under his direction. In April, a ministerial decree was issued setting standards and methods for the evaluation of university staff for 1983.

A PROTEST WEEK AGAINST THE DISMISSAL of employees for political reasons was organized in February by "Solidarnosc" at the "Fadroma" Building Materials Factory in Wroclaw. The underground leaflet campaign was intensified, and the week culminated in a 20-minute work stoppage on the 17th, planned by the Clandestine Enterprise Commission (TKZ). The success of this action prompted the Lower Silesia region of "Solidarnosc" to resort to the same form of economic strike, namely a lowering of work output. In March, leaflets were distributed in workplaces throughout the region.



B.D.K

N/A

On March 24 at "Pilmet" all employees (including Party members) switched off their machines for 10 minutes; the workforce at "Polar" stood in the yard in front of the office building for about 15 minutes. On 25 March at "Fadroma", which initiated the Protest Week, workers struck for 15 minutes.

DR. ZOFIA KURATOWSKA, chief of medical services at the Primate's Committee in Aid of Internees and their Families, will lose her job as director of a Warsaw hematology and gerontology clinic at the end of August. She was told unofficially that one either has time for attending trials or for directing a clinic. This move by the authorities is interpreted in Warsaw medical circles as a reprisal for her activities in the Committee.

- Libre Belgique, 7 July 1983

A PETITION IS BEING CIRCULATED among workers at the Zremb Enterprises to secure the reinstatement of Henryk Piotrkowski, chairman of the local "Solidarnosc" Committee. Piotrkowski was chosen by the workers to stand for election to the Workers' Council, but management demanded that his candidacy be withdrawn. When he refused to do so, he was summarily dismissed.

-Tygodnik Mazowsze, No.51

MIECZYSLAW TARNOWSKI, "Solidarnosc" vice-president in Walbrzych, has been unsuccessful in getting his job back at the Walbrzych coal mine where he had worked for over 20 years. Tarnowski was refused entry to the mine after returning from Switzerland to which he traveled as part of a union delegation before 13 December 1981. He was warned by security agents to find work within three months or be considered a "social parasite".

-Tygodnik Mazowsze, no. 53

MACIEJ REY, a high school teacher in Swidnik, was fired on 15 April and prohibited from teaching for 3 years for participating in a demonstration on 10 November 82 and for "taking walks" during the TV Evening News (a popular form of protest).

-Tygodnik Mazowsze, no. 53

"SOLIDARNOSC ELWRO" reports that there are 160,000 members and 88,000 committees of the Patriotic Movement for National Rebirth (PRON). The underground paper notes that this comes out to 1,8 members per committee.

THE DECISION BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE of the Union of Engineers and Construction Technicians (Wroclaw Region) to join PRON met with such strong opposition from Union members that the Committee was forced to reverse its decision.

-From Day to Day, no. 19

MANAGERS AT THE NOWOTKI ENTERPRISES (Warsaw) who did not attend the official May Day celebrations received a reprimand from their superiors. They were told that they had been expected to set an example for their staff and that their absence indicated differences with the official position.

IN REPLY TO A REQUEST for a pay increase, Adam Kuczka, worker at the Warsaw "Elektromontaz", received a proposal to organize one of the new trade unions.

Kuczka, who has 2 children, was earning 5,600 zlotys a month (\$67.00 US official rate; \$11.00 US on the black market). The salary of a union president or vice-president may be as high as 11,960 zlotys. Kuczka refused the management's offer and was promptly transferred to another department, maintaining his pay and receiving 1,5 zlotys an hour compensation for poor health.

HENRYK WIELEBA, a 23 year old worker at the Ursus Tractor Works near Warsaw, was found guilty on 30 May 1983 of participating in underground "Solidarnosc" activities. In a short statement to the tribunal, he said: "I joined the Union, because I believed it was a change for the better for Poland and for myself. Now they are trying to destroy "Solidarnosc", they're trying to take the Polish workers' Union away. I cannot accept this; nor can the millions of Polish workers who are boycotting the new, fraudulent trade unions. /.../An agreement with Polish workers will only be reached when their right to the independent self-governing trade union NSZZ "Solidarnosc" is recognized. The rulers of Poland must understand this before it is too late."

-Kultura, Paris, July-August 1983

THE MINERS' INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION has written to the Polish authorities expressing concern about the safety of Polish miners in view of the escalation in fatal accidents registered in 1982, and requesting that a full report from coal mine authorities on recent accidents be made available. In its last annual meeting, the Executive Committee also agreed to work at the setting up of an international commission to visit Poland and to investigate locally the conditions of Polish mineworkers.

ON BEHALF OF POLISH WORKERS, the Italian "Solidarnosc" Committee sent a message of greetings and solidarity to the June 10 demonstration of Italian metal and mechanical workers in Turin. Some 200,000 workers took part in the rally. Speakers included Pierre Carniti, Secretary-General of CISL.

SOHYO PRESIDENT MOTOFUMI MAKIEDA invited the Coordinating Office Abroad of NSZZ "Solidarnosc" to send a message to Sohyo's 69th Annual Convention taking place at the end of July. The text, signed by J. Milewski, notes that "the sources of poverty, war and enslavement - and not only their effects - must be eliminated through peaceful struggle, coordinated action and mutual support of all democratic forces throughout the world" and that freedom and peace are primarily threatened by communist and other totalitarian systems that seek to preserve and expand their sphere of absolute control over people at any cost. The message also reaffirms the commitment of NSZZ "Solidarnosc" to peace, freedom and social justice, principles championed by the Union since its inception in August 1980.

THE ALMAGAMATED CLOTHING AND TEXTILE WORKERS UNION (U.S.A.) protested the imprisonment of Mieczyslaw Bednarski, a "Solidarnosc" leader in the textile center of Lodz in April, with letters to three ranking Polish government officials. Bednarski was arrested in December 1981 for organizing a strike at a wool mill; he was sentenced to three years imprisonment and a three years' loss of civil rights. He is being held in the Leczyca prison.

JUNE 30 MARKED THE FIRST ANNIVERSARY of this Office's activities. In our second year of operations, the fundamental objectives of this Office will go unchanged. We will continue to seek political, moral and material support for NSZZ "Solidarnosc" in Poland through direct cooperation with the democratic trade union movement and other social organizations. We will continue to serve as the international department of our Union and as the official representation of the Union leadership, sponsored by, and accredited with, the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (I.C.F.T.U.) and the World Confederation of Labour (W.C.L.).