

Poland

UNITED STATES PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
ON THE
NORTH ATLANTIC COUNCIL
Brussels

Reg PA
4035

December 7, 1980

P. A. Sub - Registry
File No 19-10-01 (Pol)

NATO SECRET

Dear Joseph:

President Carter has asked me to transmit the following message to you.

Begin Text:

Dear Mr. Secretary General:

REG. P.A.
ACTION 1119
NO 17 JUL 1980

Preparations for Soviet intervention in Poland appear to be essentially completed. Further, we have some evidence which indicates that the Soviet Union has made the decision to intervene with military force and that the entry into Poland by a substantial Soviet force, possibly under the guise of a joint maneuver, may be imminent. This may be accompanied by widespread arrests by Polish security forces. We cannot be confident that this is the case, but the probability is sufficiently high that in my view Western nations should take whatever steps they can to affect Soviet decision-making and thus try to prevent the entry of Soviet forces into Poland.

Accordingly, I am issuing the following statement at 2:00 p.m. today Washington time. I trust that you will be able to issue a similar statement soon. Such statements will demonstrate to the Soviets the resolve of the Western Alliance and will serve to warn the Polish people of the serious nature of the current situation.

His Excellency,
Joseph M.A.H. Luns,
Secretary General,
North Atlantic Treaty Organization,
Brussels.

This document consists of 2 pages.

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Begin Text of White House Statement:

Preparations for possible Soviet intervention in Poland appear to have been completed. It is our hope that no such intervention will take place. The United States Government reiterates its statement of December 3, regarding the very adverse consequences for US-Soviet relations of Soviet military intervention in Poland.

End Text

In addition I believe it advisable to undertake the prudent measures to increase our readiness to institute military vigilance as proposed by SACEUR, and to this end the NATO Permanent Representatives should act on Monday.

Sincerely,

Jimmy Carter

End Text.

Yours very sincerely,

Tap

W. Tapley Bennett, Jr.
Ambassador