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DER STÄNDIGE VERTRETER.
DER BUNDESREPUBLIK DEUTSCHLAND
IM NORDATLANTIKRAT
- 662/82 VS-V -

Brussels, 18 February 1982

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REG. P. A.
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Mr Joseph,

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During the Private Luncheon on 16 February 1982 I presented our first assessment of the results of our demarches in connection with the crisis in Poland. In addition, I pointed out that especially demarches in Third World Countries are advisable and should be undertaken on a large scale by Allies since it became clear that the Soviet Union has so far not put forward its views on the Polish situation in the Third World.

Our assessment of the result of our demarches is as follows:

1. Since 3 February 1982, German demarches have been carried out on the basis of the agreement reached in the NATO Council on December 31, 1981, in a number of capitals, also of the Third World. The talks held on these occasions have made it clear that the events in Poland are being watched with concern also outside

His Excellency
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Secretary General of the North
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the Alliance. The demarches have thus been received with interest in the majority of capitals where our presentation has in some cases been explicitly welcomed. Almost all the talks took place in a receptive atmosphere.

2. The demarches showed that, in the majority of countries, the events in Poland are being regarded as Poland's own affair and that Poland should be able to solve her problems herself. A large measure of agreement with the western position was noted, for example, in Lagos, Mexico, Bogota, Kuala Lumpur and Islamabad. The majority of Third World Countries which were approached emphasized that there had so far not been any direct Soviet military intervention, a comparison with Afghanistan was therefore not possible at the present time.

3. A number of the governments approached called attention to the differences in the western reactions. In this context, doubts were occasionally expressed concerning the effectiveness and desirability of sanctions (Lagos, Rabat, New Delhi). In some capitals, the West was told that it was using different yardsticks for human rights violations. Thus, the Government in Lagos referred to human rights violation in South Africa; and the Governments in Rabat and Amman to those committed in the Israeli-occupied Arab territories.

4. The demarches carried out in countries of the Third World generally showed that the governments concerned do not consider themselves profoundly involved in a matter which they regard as being part of the

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East-West conflict. This restraint which is due to the political principles of the non-aligned movement is not surprising. On the other hand, it should be welcomed that the majority of states explicitly shares our concern and that some of them have given the assurance that they will think about possibilities of giving expression to their concern (Cairo, Brazilia, Bogota). In Kuala Lumpur, we were told that Malaysia would prepare a position which would be in harmony with ours.

I hope that this information might be of some interest to you.

I am sending copies of this letter to all my colleagues on the council.

With kindest regards

Yours sincerely

H. J. G.