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UNITED STATES PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
ON THE
NORTH ATLANTIC COUNCIL
Brussels

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Dear Joseph:

As you are aware, the Polish parliament (Sejm) is scheduled to meet on December 13, the first anniversary of the declaration of martial law in Poland. As various reports have indicated, the Sejm may take further liberalizing steps at that time, including a formal lifting of martial law, although in that case a substitute form of emergency powers would probably be introduced.

It is clear that the Polish government is watching Western reaction to the release of Lech Walesa to see whether limited steps such as Walesa's release or the formal lifting of martial law will suffice to bring about normalization of relations with the Allies.

In these circumstances, we believe it important to make sure the Polish government understands that, while the Allies welcome Walesa's release and any other steps towards restoring the human rights of the Polish people, we will not normalize relations with Poland until substantial steps towards genuine reconciliation have been taken.

In this regard, President Reagan will make a statement on or before December 13, and plans are being made for other public events to dramatize U.S. solidarity with the Polish people. In his statement, the President will welcome

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

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the release of Walesa and call on the Polish government to take additional steps towards fulfillment of the three NATO criteria.

We hope other Allied heads of government will consider making similar statements prior to December 13, and we are approaching Allied governments in capitals on this question. We believe such statements by NATO leaders could have a useful impact on the decisions to be taken by the Polish government in coming weeks.

I am sending copies of this letter to the other members of the Council for their information.

Yours very sincerely,

Wep

W. Tapley Bennett, Jr.
Ambassador

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