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U.S. Delegation
August 2, 1984

The President has taken note of the announcement by the Government of Poland on July 21 that it intends to release 652 political prisoners.

The President considers this a positive step and hopes that it will contribute to reconciliation in Poland.

In recognition of the potential importance of this announcement, the President has decided to take two steps now:

-- He is lifting the ban on scientific travel under the Maria-Sklodowska Curie Fund and intends fully to restore scientific exchanges.

-- Subject to the Government of Poland's agreement to drop its pending arbitration claim against the United States, and subject to the negotiation of a new bilateral air agreement, he is prepared to restore the Polish national airline Lot's landing rights in the United States.

-- In recognition of the long-term positive impact which the amnesty could have on the Polish people, the President is also prepared to lift the US political objection to Polish membership in the IMF in several weeks, provided the amnesty is completely and reasonably carried out.

-- The United States will be watching the situation in Poland very closely and sincerely hopes that developments in Poland will permit the lifting of the political sanction on IMF membership in the next few weeks.

-- Finally, the United States hopes the Polish Government will take additional positive steps in the future, including a restoration of dialogue with the Polish people, which will contribute to national reconciliation in Poland.

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