

enabled more Polish citizens to travel abroad, many for the first time. We commended these steps on the part of the Polish government which clearly facilitated the freer movements and contacts, individually and collectively agreed to in the Human Contacts section of the Helsinki Final Act. This encouraging development was effectively guillotined on December 13, and now even private travel to Poland is virtually impossible. Family meetings, except in cases of grave illness or death, have been virtually halted.

As signatories to the Helsinki Final Act, we agreed to facilitate the freer and wider dissemination of information of all kinds. With the imposition of martial law, the jamming of certain radio stations broadcasting into Poland began, some of it from another country. This action directly contravenes the obligations undertaken by Poland in the Third Basket of the Final Act, and is therefore entirely unacceptable.

(TEXT)

Mr. Chairman, Canada has stated on numerous occasions that Poland must be left to resolve its political and social difficulties without outside intervention. We believe firmly that only the Poles themselves have the right to determine their national destiny--but it must be all Poles, not just a small ruling class.

In his statement on December 30, 1981, the Prime Minister of Canada called for national reconciliation in Poland. As he put it, "Now is the time to begin the movement towards compromise and renewal. Military rule cannot be a permanent answer in Poland or in any other country. Armies may command the streets, but they cannot command the confidence of the people; that can only be earned through actions which engender political assent. The earnest desire of the Canadian government is that the spirit of reform will be allowed to revive among all those forces in the society that can contribute to a peaceful and constructive solution of Poland's problems."

But time is moving on and patience wears thin. I therefore call for an immediate amelioration of the situation which, in addition to a genuine and visible movement toward reconciliation, would include the lifting of martial law and the release of those now held in detention. Early movement in regard to these considerations will create an environment in which the interest of all of us will be to help Poland to overcome the grave problems which it faces, resume its obligations as a signatory of the Helsinki Final Act, and take its proper place in the concept of Europe.