

## THE POLISH SITUATION

MARTIAL LAWMartial Law

1. Martial law remains in force in Poland. Despite some limited relaxations, the fundamentals of military rule remain intact. The protest demonstrations of 1 and 3 May have revealed the fragility of the situation and the shallowness of public acceptance of Jaruzelski's policies. Jaruzelski's dilemma remains: if he relaxes his grip, popular opposition will spread; but martial law can provide no solution to Poland's political and economic problems.

Dialogue

2. The Government's attempts to reach an understanding on its own terms with Solidarity have failed. In a move to obtain broader support for his policies and exclude Solidarity, Jaruzelski has established consultative councils (including non-party members) at national and local government levels. Despite this facade however, there is no sign that Jaruzelski is prepared at this stage to launch a real dialogue in Poland.

Solidarity

3. Solidarity has remained united in its refusal to accept the limited role which the Government is proposing for it. The popular demonstrations at the beginning of May suggest that the Union is regaining its confidence and its credibility as a viable political movement; although it is not yet clear how far this will translate into more coordinated and organised acts of resistance. There is little prospect that Walesa or other prominent Solidarity leaders will be