

June 5, 1989

**Transcript of the Central Committee Secretariat
Meeting of the Polish United Workers Party (PZPR)**

Citation:

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Summary:

On the day after Solidarity had swept Poland's first open elections, ultimately winning 99 of 100 Senate seats, the Polish Communists vent their shock and dismay ("a bitter lesson," "the party are not connected with the masses," "We trusted the Church and they turned out to be Jesuits" were typical comments). Comrade Kwasniewski (who was later elected President of Poland) remarks that "It's well known that also party members were crossing out our candidates" (only two out of 35 Party candidates survived the epidemic of X's). But they see no choice but to negotiate a coalition government, and specifically "[w]arn against attempts at destabilization, pointing at the situation in China" -- since the Tiananmen massacre occurred the same day as the Polish elections, the road not taken.

Credits:

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Polish

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