

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

SUBJECT: Meeting with Foreign Minister Krzysztof Skubiszewski of Poland

PARTICIPANTS: The President
James A. Baker, Secretary of State
John H. Sununu, Chief of Staff
Brent Scowcroft,
Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs
Robert D. Blackwill, Special Assistant to the President for European and Soviet Affairs

Krzysztof Skubiszewski, Foreign Minister

DATE, TIME September 25, 1989, 8:35 - 8:45 p.m. EDT
AND PLACE: Grand Foyer, Metropolitan Museum of Art,
New York

The President met briefly with Foreign Minister Skubiszewski during the President's reception for Heads of Delegation, Permanent Representatives and spouses, on the occasion of the 44th Session of the United Nations General Assembly.

The President: The next time I see you, I hope we can put our feet up and have a longer discussion.

Foreign Minister Skubiszewski: I would like to thank you for your interest in our country. There are historic situations when destiny is present. Now is such a time, in which we must shape our future. Your moral support is crucial, as is what you do on the material plane. We do not live in an era of Marshall Plans, although some in Solidarity do not realize that. Help must come from within to organize a market economy. I would like to congratulate you on your speech, especially for helping Third World countries through market mechanisms. This is also a problem in Poland. In foreign affairs and our quest for external sovereignty and internal independence, I can assure you that the Polish Government has no intention of destabilizing Europe.

The President: I know that. I would like to bring you over to have a fuller talk. We have respect for your leadership, including General Jaruzelski.

Foreign Minister Skubiszewski: I agree.

The President: We want you to succeed. We want to help you, and to do what is right. So when you are in Washington, please let me know. You and Jim Baker can follow up on this, but I do not want to complicate your efforts through U.S. zest.

Foreign Minister Skubiszewski: Your policy has transformed zest into specific, helpful measures. Your influence was very, very important in achieving a final compromise in Poland. Your name was rendered in our debates, and you made a difference.

--End of Conversation--