

**March 31, 1981**

**Memorandum from John McMahon to the Secretaries  
of State and Defense and Director of the National  
Security Agency, '[Redacted] Report'**

**Citation:**

"Memorandum from John McMahon to the Secretaries of State and Defense and Director of the National Security Agency, '[Redacted] Report'", March 31, 1981, Wilson Center Digital Archive, CIA declassification, 2008  
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**Summary:**

Translation echos General Jaruzelski's comments on his and deputy ministers authority in matters of national defense - delegating power while still maintaining direction.

**Credits:**

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**Original Language:**

English

**Contents:**

Original Scan

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**CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY**

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

31 March 1981

MEMORANDUM FOR:   The Secretary of State  
                          The Secretary of Defense  
                          Director, National Security Agency

FROM               :   John N. McMahon  
                          Deputy Director for Operations

SUBJECT           :    Report

1. Enclosed is a  report. For convenience of reference by NFIB agencies, the codeword  has been assigned to the product of certain extremely sensitive agent sources of CIA's Directorate of Operations. The word  is classified  and is to be used only among persons authorized to read and handle this material.

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**Distribution:**

The Secretary of State

The Secretary of Defense

Director of Central Intelligence

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## Intelligence Information Special Report

COUNTRY Poland  
DATE OF INFO. February 1981

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DATE 31 March 1981

SUBJECT

Authority of Premier JARUZELSKI as  
Minister of National Defense

SOURCE Documentary

Summary:

This report is a translation of a Polish Minister of Defense Order No. 011, dated 27 February 1981, classified SECRET. In this order General JARUZELSKI outlines his authority in matters affecting the national defense, and assigns functions and duties to his deputy ministers to be carried out in his name. These deputies will report directly to Premier JARUZELSKI, by agreement with the Chief of the General Staff, Polish Armed Forces. In effect, JARUZELSKI is delegating some of his authority, but still retaining full control of the armed forces.

End of Summary

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MINISTRY OF NATIONAL DEFENSE  
GENERAL STAFF

SECRET

ORDER NO. 011 OF THE MINISTER OF NATIONAL  
DEFENSE, DATED 27 FEBRUARY 1981

In connection with my appointment by the PPR Sejm to the position of Chairman of the Council of Ministers with the simultaneous function of Minister of National Defense I retain the authority, as head of the Ministry, to make the essential decisions on matters pertaining particularly to:

- preparation of crucial national defense proposals,
- development of the armed forces and their preparation for the defense of the PPR,
- execution, in the Ministry of National Defense, of the decisions of central Party organs and main organs of state authority,
- implementation of the main party-political and ideological-educational policies emanating from the provisions of "Instructions of the Secretariat of the PUWP Central Committee on tasks, authority, and structure of the party-political organs, political apparatus, and party authorities of the PPR Armed Forces,"
- fulfillment by citizens of the obligation of military service,
- general principles of cadre policies and principles on military service procedures for career personnel as well as implementation of specified personnel undertakings,

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- proposals and suggestions from meetings of the Military Council and the MND Policy Board,
- essential military counterintelligence measures which are of vital importance to the armed forces and national defense,
- interallied collaboration and official foreign contacts of the Ministry.

I hereby order:

In addition to fulfillment of present duties emanating from "MND Organizational Regulations in Peacetime," the individuals listed below are assigned the following functions:

1. Chief of General Staff of Polish Armed Forces:
  - a. to coordinate all activities of the Ministry;
  - b. to be in actual command of the PPR Armed Forces;
  - c. to issue in the name of the Minister of National Defense normative documents and other internal ministerial documents;
  - d. to preside, when so ordered, over meetings of the Military Council and MND Policy Board;
  - e. to fulfill other functions of the Minister of National Defense associated with directing activities of the Ministry defined in section 13 of "MND Organizational Regulations in Peacetime," but not reserved in this order for my decision;
  - f. to report to me periodically on the essential matters associated with combat readiness of the troops and implementation of principal tasks of the Ministry of National Defense.

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2. Deputy Minister of National Defense for General Matters:

- a. to attend, on behalf of the Minister of National Defense, meetings of the Council of Ministers and the Sejm National Defense Commission;
- b. to make, in my name, decisions on the following matters:
  - salaries and other financial obligations in the ministry,
  - collaboration with the trade unions of civilian armed forces employees,
  - suggestions, requests, and complaints forwarded directly to the Minister of National Defense.

3. Chief Inspector of Territorial Defense:

- to perform, in the area of responsibility of the Minister of National Defense, general supervision of the implementation of defense tasks by organs of state administration, state institutions, units of the socialized economy, and social organizations.

4. Chief Inspector of Training:

- to preside, on behalf of the Minister of National Defense, over meetings of the Military Higher Education Council.

5. The Deputy Minister of National Defense for General Matters, the Chief Inspector of Territorial Defense, and the Chief Inspector of Training will report directly to me, by agreement with the Chief of the General Staff of the Polish Armed Forces, on essential decisions pertaining to matters listed in points 2, 3, and 4.

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6. The deputy ministers of national defense, chiefs of MND central institutions directly subordinate to the Minister of National Defense, as well as commanders of military districts and branches of the armed forces--acting within the areas of their responsibilities, duties, and authorities--will forward all matters requiring my decision through the Chief of the General Staff of the Polish Armed Forces, with the exception of those pertaining to the state of implementation of party-political and ideological-educational main work policies in the armed forces as well as basic military counterintelligence measures, which are directly forwarded to me by the chiefs in agreement with the Chief of the General Staff of the Polish Armed Forces.

MINISTER OF NATIONAL DEFENSE  
Wojciech JARUZELSKI  
General of the Army

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