

called the Paris-Berlin-Vienna Triangle. According to this plan, we would rebuild infrastructure and would spark the creation of thousands of high-technology small and medium-size enterprises.

This is the creative conception of economics, in contrast to the financier conception, which is speculative and sterile. But I have the sense that Poland, with its Balcerowicz Plan has become committed to the logic of the financier, which causes injustice. What do you think?

Edelman: Yes, you're right. But you have to understand that our economy will not "take off" unless the West makes certain sacrifices. There must be a political and economic commitment of great scope from the Western European countries with respect to us. But if you are aiding someone, you must first start by having a sense of charity. The West therefore, ought to have it, even if this implies certain sacrifices on its part.

For if the West does not accept this idea, does not undertake its responsibilities, this will cost it much more dearly, much later.

We need something for Eastern Europe of the sort that the United States did for Western Europe after 1945: We need a "new Marshall Plan." We need the countries of the West to understand that the countries of the East must also be freed from an illegitimate debt. All this must be coordinated altogether in one plan; one lone country cannot take the initiative. Obviously this goes beyond the case of Poland. I am talking about relations between Western Europe and Eastern Europe.

Q: You mean that we cannot have a real plan of development for Poland unless the Western nations, and in particular Western Europe, offer it different opportunities?

Edelman: One cannot work up enthusiasm with falling living standards. The split between society and the economy is terrible in our countries in the East. We need to completely change the spirit of the economy and society. This costs much more than to rebuild a house. We need stability, for example, monetary stability, and growth, better working conditions. But this can not be accomplished without the intervention of the countries of Western Europe, without an equitable economic order and mutual development.

We are doing too much talking. There are plenty of pretty words. We need to act. We need you to give us the means to act. If we change things in depth before the year 2000, you ought to be satisfied. Help us; you will help yourselves at the same time, since that's your responsibility as Europeans.

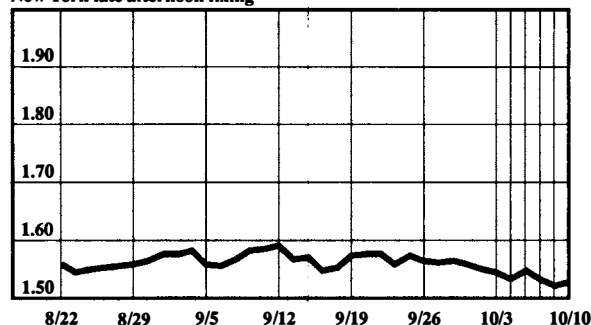
Q: What more can we do, immediately, in Western Europe, for you, the Polish people?

Edelman: Poland is today a poor country. For example, we need medicines. . . . But the essential thing I want to say is: At least, do not make things worse for us. Concretely, control this affair with Iraq, lest we must pay the consequences.

Currency Rates

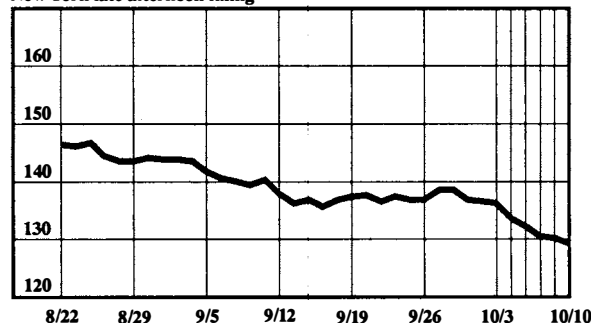
The dollar in deutschemarks

New York late afternoon fixing



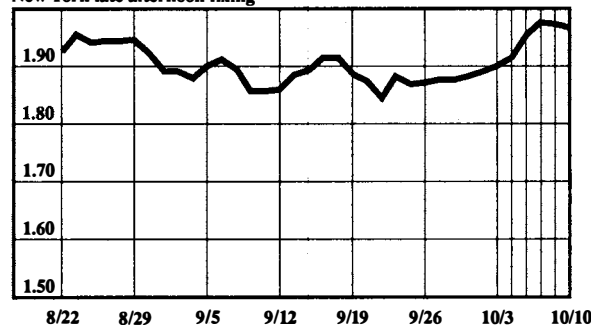
The dollar in yen

New York late afternoon fixing



The British pound in dollars

New York late afternoon fixing



The dollar in Swiss francs

New York late afternoon fixing

