

Ford at a news conf. in parking lot behind Glendale city hall:

"Let me make an observation ~~and~~ and comment. Perhaps it could have been more precise in what i said, about the soviet domination of poland. i fortunately had the opportunity of being in poland in 1975, no democratic president has ever visited poland while in office. so i had the opportunity to see the polish people and get their reaction of a n american president. and i ~~was~~ was there for the purpose of indicating to the thousands upon thousands of polish people that the ~~us~~ ^{american} believe in their desire for freedom and independence. i recognize that ~~there~~ there are polish -- or in poland that there are soviet divisions. But anybody who has looked straight in the eye of ~~thoosa~~ of ~~the~~ fine polish people knows that the their desire for liberty and freedom is just as great as the desire for liberty and freedom of the american people. it's tragic that the soviet union does have some divisions in poland. it's a tragedy that i hope in the future the poles will be able to find another solution because the unquenchable spirit of the polish people is something that i admire and respect. And i join the polish-americans in this country who know th at their ancestral home is a home that, where for centuries, there was freedom we want freedom for their relatives, their loved ones, and their ~~xxx~~ people ~~from the land that they came.~~ ^{FROM THE LAND THAT THEY CAME.} president ford ~~DOES NOT BELIEVE~~ that the polish people over the long run whether they're in ~~poland~~ poland, whether they're polish-americans here, will ~~ever~~ ever condone domination by any foreign force.

Q. ... does the soviet union have military dominance?

A. ASI said the other night, the soviet union does not have domination of yugoslovia. the soviet union does not militarily dominate rumania. i was perhaps not as precise as i should have been. i recognize that there are soviet divisions in poland. i regret it. and i am very proud of the courageous attitude of the polish people who want freedom, who have the aspiration for liberty just as we do in the united states. and i fully support their hopes and aspirations. there are several other countries in eastern europe that tragically have soviet military forces in their country. that's not what president ford wants, and that's not what the american people want.

Q. ... has this caused you any polical trouble?

A. I have no way of knowing. I firmly believe that the polish-americans in this country know of my strong support over the years, not just ~~recently~~ recently for the captive nations ~~regulation~~.

~~that~~ was enacted frequently in the Congress of the United States.
And i always supported it. so any polish american or ~~other~~
any other ethnic american who knows ^{of} president ford's record
of full support for the captive nations resolution knows where
i stand .

Q. did you come out to put an end to this misunderstanding?

A. "I hope and trust that my observations this morning
will put an end to ~~this~~ ^A misunderstanding. it was a misunderstanding
and i hope and trust that my very deep and firm convictions have now
been ~~expressed~~ again as they have over the years."

~~said~~

~~(renewed it)~~

