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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Thirty-ninth session
Items 59 (f) and 68 of the provisional
agenda*
REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
RECOMMENDATIONS AND DECISIONS ADOPTED
BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AT ITS TENTH
SPECIAL SESSION: PREVENTION OF NUCLEAR WAR
REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
DECLARATION ON THE STRENGTHENING OF
INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

SECURITY COUNCIL
Thirty-ninth year

Letter dated 16 August 1984 from the Chargé d'Affaires a.i. of the
Permanent Mission of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to
the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you the text of a Statement issued by TASS on
15 August 1984.

I request you, Sir, to have this Statement circulated as an official document
of the General Assembly, under items 59 (f) and 68 of the provisional agenda, and
of the Security Council.

(Signed) R. OVINNIKOV
Chargé d'Affaires a.i.
of the Permanent Mission of the
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
to the United Nations

* A/39/150.

ANNEX

Statement by TASS

The American radio companies which recently made a recording of the latest election campaign speech of Ronald Reagan, President of the United States, have preserved on tape some words which the President spoke before reading the text of his speech and which he did not intend for the public.

As has become known, Mr. Reagan's remarks, word for word, were the following:

"My fellow Americans! I am pleased to tell you that today I have signed legislation that will outlaw Russia forever. We begin bombing in five minutes."

Attempts are now being made in the White House to make it appear that the head of the United States administration was merely indulging in a "joke".

True enough, no such law has been signed by Mr. Reagan and no order to bomb was given this time. However, it is no accident that the President's words were received both in the United States and in other countries with serious concern.

This episode quite accurately displays the same attitudes which were earlier formulated officially in the calls for a "crusade", in the doctrines of limited and protracted nuclear war, in the military and political plans to gain for the United States a dominant position in the world. The United States administration prefers to say nothing about all this now, but its practical actions speak for themselves.

It is intensifying the build-up of nuclear, chemical and conventional weapons and producing a new class of armaments: attack weapons in outer space.

It is employing every possible method, including a policy of State terrorism and the direct use of military force against independent countries whose domestic and foreign policies do not suit Washington.

At the same time, the United States is blocking the process of limiting and reducing nuclear weapons and other negotiations to halt the arms race and bring about disarmament.

The unwillingness of the United States to take steps in the direction of peace and the strengthening of international security has once again been made evident in its refusal to conclude an agreement aimed at preventing the militarization of outer space.

The policy of the present United States administration runs counter to the vital interests of the world's peoples. It is doomed to failure and yet is extremely dangerous. Everyone who loves peace must therefore be very much on his guard.

/...

No one should be deceived by any of the pseudo-peace-loving rhetoric resorted to in Washington from time to time for campaign purposes. It is obvious that this rhetoric does not match the facts. If anyone had any doubts on that score, President Reagan's latest "revelation" should open even his eyes.

TASS is authorized to state that the Soviet Union condemns the attack by the President of the United States, which is unprecedentedly hostile to the USSR and dangerous to the cause of peace.

Such behaviour is incompatible with the high degree of responsibility borne by leaders of States, especially nuclear-weapon States, for the fate of their own peoples and for the fate of mankind.

On the basis of that responsibility, the Soviet Union has done and will do everything in its power to safeguard peace on earth. The world's peoples expect the leaders of the United States also, at long last, to act with an understanding of their responsibility.
