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INADMISSIBILITY OF THE POLICY OF STATE
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AIMED AT UNDERMINING THE SOCIO-
POLITICAL SYSTEM IN OTHER SOVEREIGN
STATES

Letter dated 5 December 1984 from the Permanent Representative of
the German Democratic Republic to the United Nations addressed to
the Secretary-General

As the representative of the country organizing the regular meeting of the Committee of Foreign Ministers of the States Parties to the Warsaw Treaty of Friendship, Co-operation and Mutual Assistance, held in Berlin on 3 and 4 December 1984, I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of the communiqué on the meeting.

I would request you, Excellency, to arrange that the said communiqué be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 12, 38, 54, 56, 59, 60, 61, 64, 65, 68, 72, 80, 105, 123, 124, 126, 142 and 143, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Harry OTT
Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs
Ambassador Extraordinary and
Plenipotentiary

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ANNEX

Communiqué

on the Meeting of the Committee of Foreign Ministers
of the Warsaw Treaty States

On 3 and 4 December 1984 a Regular Meeting of the Committee of Foreign Ministers of the States Parties to the Warsaw Treaty of Friendship, Co-operation and Mutual Assistance was held in Berlin.

The Meeting was attended by:

P. Mladenov, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of Bulgaria; P. Varkonyi, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Hungarian People's Republic; O. Fischer, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the German Democratic Republic; S. Olszowski, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Polish People's Republic; S. Andrei, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Socialist Republic of Romania; A.A. Gromyko, First Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, and B. Chnoupek, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic.

1. The Ministers focussed their attention on the situation in Europe in the context of the international situation as a whole. It was emphasized that recent developments have fully confirmed the collective assessments made and conclusions drawn in the Prague Political Declaration of 5 January 1983, the Joint Statement of Moscow of 28 June 1983 and the Declaration of the Member Countries of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance of 14 June 1984 on the march of events in Europe and the situation in the world.

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The participants in the Meeting expressed concern at the persistence of dangerous tensions in Europe and the world at large.

As a result of the continuing deployment of US medium-range missiles in a number of West European NATO countries, the situation in Europe has been aggravated further. This has ushered in a new, particularly perilous phase of the arms race on the European continent. Consequently, the Soviet Union and some other socialist countries were compelled to take a number of countermeasures.

The participants in the Meeting pointed to the dangers to peace and security arising from concepts that call in question the frontiers existing between the European States, their socio-political systems as well as other political and territorial realities that came into existence after World War Two. Europe's post-war frontiers are inviolable. The revival of revanchist forces in the FRG and the encouragement of revanchism, no matter where, have a negative impact on the political climate in Europe and understanding among its peoples. Profound uneasiness has been caused by the decision of the Western European Union Council to lift from the FRG the ban on the production of long-range missiles and strategic bombers.

The States represented at the Meeting voiced their concern at the intensification of the politics of force and diktat by the imperialist circles, the unprecedented escalation of the arms race, especially in the nuclear field, the growing

danger of a nuclear catastrophe, the production and accumulation of new types of ever more destructive nuclear weapons, adherence to dangerous military doctrines allowing a nuclear war to be unleashed, the creation of new systems of conventional armaments coming close, in destructive power, to mass destruction weapons and at the drastic increase in military spending.

The USA and some of its allies themselves make no secret of the fact that their actions are designed to gain military superiority.

The peoples of Europe and of the other continents, who have actively embarked upon the road of resolute action against a threatening nuclear war, for halting the arms race and restoring a healthy international climate, are increasingly concerned at the exacerbation of the situation. Clear proof of this is the broad peace movement in Europe and in other world regions.

The States represented at the Meeting stand up for the strict observance in inter-governmental relations of the principles of respect for independence and national sovereignty, the inviolability of frontiers and of territorial integrity, non-interference in internal affairs, renunciation of the threat or use of force, the peaceful settlement of all disputes between States by way of negotiations, as well as of the other fundamental principles governing international relations.

2. The Warsaw Treaty States view the reversal of the arms race especially in the nuclear field, as a basic concern of our time. Everything must be done, while there is still time, to lessen military confrontation and guide international relations back to the path of detente and equal, mutually advantageous co-operation among States.

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There are possibilities of achieving a turn for the better. What it takes is the initiation of a policy of realism and business-like co-operation in the effort to meet the challenges facing the peoples of Europe and the world at large. What is required is serious dialogue on an equal footing between States having different social systems, what is needed are negotiations in which the parties involved will be aware of their high responsibility and will seek positive results. The Warsaw Treaty States are ready for such negotiations and they urge that these be held with a view to reaching agreements that are based on the principle of equality and equal security. Their proposals on ways of halting the arms race and preventing a war remain on the table.

At the same time the Warsaw Treaty States emphasize that they do not seek military superiority, but will not submit to superiority over them either. They advocate a balance of forces on the lowest possible level.

3. The States represented at the Meeting welcome it that the Soviet Union and the United States have agreed to begin negotiations on the entire complex of questions concerning nuclear and space weapons. The Warsaw Treaty States attach great importance to that understanding. They favour the identification, from the very outset and in unmistakable terms, of the subject and aims of these negotiations which are called upon to enhance strategic stability, avert the militarization of outer space, and lower the level of nuclear confrontation in Europe and the world at large through the reduction of nuclear weapons both strategic and medium-range, until they are completely eliminated.

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4. Under the present conditions the vital interests of all European peoples call for efforts to halt the accumulation of new nuclear weapons on the European continent and to drastically reduce such weapons until Europe is entirely free from nuclear arms, both medium-range and tactical ones. No steps must be taken that are aimed at giving one grouping military superiority over the other.

Since the nuclear arms race in Europe poses a threat to all peoples on the continent, the States represented at the Meeting consider it important that all European States, notably the Members of NATO and the Warsaw Treaty, actively encourage efforts to eliminate the danger of a nuclear war.

They recall in this connection that those States on whose territories the deployment of nuclear medium-range missiles is going on or planned bear a heavy responsibility for the fate of peace in Europe and the entire world.

The participants in the Meeting resolutely support efforts to establish nuclear-weapon-free zones in the Balkans, in northern Europe and in other regions of the European continent.

Moreover, the States represented at the Meeting come out for the earliest possible conclusion at the Vienna talks of an agreement on the mutual reduction of armed forces and armaments in central Europe. The proposals submitted by the socialist countries directly involved in these negotiations provide a good foundation for an agreement.

They recall their proposals addressed to the NATO Member States on ways of ridding Europe of chemical weapons, the non-increase and reduction of arms expenditures and the conclusion of a treaty on the mutual renunciation of the use of military force and the maintenance of peaceful relations, and call for immediate substantive negotiations on these subjects.

The States represented at the Meeting note that the progress of work at the Stockholm Conference on Confidence- and Security-Building Measures and Disarmament in Europe places the earliest possible commencement of concrete negotiations on the agenda. They stand up for conducting them in a constructive spirit and for achieving substantive agreements on mutually complementary confidence- and security-building measures in Europe of both a political and international legal and a military-technical nature. Those agreements must be based on equality of rights, balance and reciprocity, and equal respect for the security interests of all participating States, and must help reduce the threat of war and lessen military confrontation.

The Meeting reaffirmed the abiding commitment of the Warsaw Treaty States to the continued pursuit and deepening of the all-European process, of detente, the strengthening of security and the development of co-operation in Europe on the foundations laid in the Final Act of Helsinki.

5. The Warsaw Treaty States consider it imperative that concrete and effective measures be adopted to overcome nuclear confrontation, limit and reduce nuclear weapons with a view to their complete elimination.

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As an important step to this end they propose a quantitative and qualitative freeze on nuclear armaments. From the NATO countries they expect a response to this proposal. They emphasize the preparedness of the Soviet Union to take such a step together with the USA to set an example for the other nuclear Powers to follow.

The States represented at the Meeting furthermore express themselves in favour of the speedy conclusion of a treaty on the complete and general prohibition of nuclear weapon tests and the holding of negotiations to this end.

In submitting these proposals they are convinced that it is both dangerous and absurd to keep amassing and perfecting nuclear arms.

The participants in the Meeting urgently call upon those nuclear-weapon Powers which have not yet done so to assume the obligation to forgo the first use of such weapons. They consider it necessary for all nuclear-weapon States to contribute their share to the prevention of nuclear war and to making it the primary objective of their foreign policy concepts and activities to free peoples from the nuclear threat.

The States represented at the Meeting call attention to the fact that a militarization of outer space, if not prevented in time, would enormously heighten the risk of nuclear war and give the nuclear arms race unprecedented proportions. They are fully committed to preventing a militarization of outer space, to halting all actions aimed at extending the arms race to outer space, to using it exclusively for peaceful

purposes for the benefit of all mankind. This is a task that must be solved thoroughly and as fast as possible by means of reliably verifiable agreements concluded on a bilateral and multilateral basis.

The hope was expressed that all States - above all those with space capabilities - recognize the need to take measures for the prevention of the militarization of outer space. Emphasis was placed on the role of the United Nations in the solution of this problem.

The Ministers supported serious negotiations on all issues under discussion at the Geneva Conference on Disarmament with a view to reaching concrete arrangements at that forum. They believe that a constructive approach by all participants in the Conference would make it possible for the drafting of a convention on the prohibition and elimination of chemical weapons to be finalized in the foreseeable future.

6. The States participating in the Meeting - being consistent advocates of an enhanced role for the United Nations in safeguarding peace and strengthening international security - at the current thirty-ninth session of the United Nations General Assembly focussed on the key issues of present-day international relations. They recall the proposals they submitted to the World Organization, which are aimed at

- curbing the arms race and achieving disarmament, particularly in the nuclear field,
- eliminating hotbeds of crisis or conflict in various world regions by way of negotiations,
- establishing a new international economic order

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and which are directed against

- the policy of interference in the internal affairs of States and
- all actions designed to undermine the socio-political systems in other States.

They stressed that the application of discriminatory restrictions in economic relations and any other kind of pressure contradicts the basic principles of State-to-State relations.

The States represented at the Meeting condemn the imperialist policy of force and manifest their solidarity with, and support for the peoples fighting for their freedom, the strengthening of their independence and for socio-economic progress.

They underline the significant role the non-aligned movement is playing in the struggle for the elimination of the danger of war, the cessation of the arms race, and disarmament, the improvement of international political and economic relations, against all forms of domination and exploitation.

7. The Foreign Ministers held an exchange of views in connection with the forthcoming fortieth anniversary of the victory over Fascism. They expressed their conviction that it is the obligation of peoples and Governments to commemorate this important anniversary by increased efforts for preserving and strengthening world peace.

8. The Foreign Ministers underscored the importance of the Warsaw Treaty as an effective instrument for guaranteeing the security of its Member States, for jointly preparing and implementing their peaceful foreign policy course, and as a weighty factor for maintaining and strengthening European peace, in particular in the complicated present international situation.

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The Meeting of the Committee of Foreign Ministers of the Warsaw Treaty States was marked by a spirit of co-operation and an atmosphere of complete mutual agreement.

The next Regular Meeting of the Committee of Foreign Ministers of the Warsaw Treaty States will take place in Warsaw in June 1985.
