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REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE
STRENGTHENING OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

Note verbale dated 24 January 1980 from the Permanent Mission of
Bulgaria to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

The Permanent Mission of the People's Republic of Bulgaria to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and, on instructions from the Government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, has the honour to transmit herewith the text of the Declaration adopted on 18 December 1979 by the National Assembly of Bulgaria.

The Permanent Mission would be most obliged if the Secretary-General would circulate the text of the Declaration as an official document of the General Assembly under the item entitled "Review of the implementation of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security".

ANNEX

DECLARATION OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PEOPLE'S
REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA

The National Assembly of the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the entire Bulgarian people express their grave concern and anxiety over the decision taken by the NATO Council at its December session in Brussels with regard to the production and deployment of new United States medium-range nuclear missiles in the territory of some Western European countries.

This decision benefits the most reactionary and aggressive NATO circles and is contrary to the will and vital interests of the European peoples. Mass protests on the part of enormous segments of Western European public opinion have been ignored, as have the well-founded objections of many realistic Western politicians and leaders, who have expressed opposition to the United States plan to "modernize" the NATO nuclear arsenal.

There has been no constructive response to the peace initiatives of the Soviet Union and the other Warsaw Treaty countries aimed at reducing military confrontation and at terminating the arms race in Europe, including medium-range nuclear missiles, with the goal of promoting efforts to reach important agreements in the area of military détente.

Nor has any note been taken of the appeal made by the Consultative Meeting of representatives of the Parliaments of the Warsaw Treaty countries, held on 15 and 16 October 1979 at Prague.

The appeal made by the Committee of Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Warsaw Treaty countries calling for a review of the situation now being created in Europe and for abstention from any action which might aggravate the situation in Europe, has also been ignored.

The decision of the NATO Council with regard to the production and deployment of a new type of United States nuclear missile in Europe is an attempt to change the existing balance of forces in order to achieve military superiority to the detriment of the States signatories to the Warsaw Treaty which in the last analysis endangers the security of all European countries. The implementation of this decision will undoubtedly and inevitably lead to a new dangerous cycle in the arms race and to a net increase in military expenditures. The decision is contrary to the Final Act of Helsinki and seriously jeopardizes the campaign for peace, security and co-operation on the European continent; by raising obstacles to détente it increases the danger of nuclear missile war.

Resorting yet again to the myth of a Soviet threat, reactionary NATO circles seek to deceive world public opinion and justify this decision.

The current international situation requires effective measures to slow down the arms race, to achieve disarmament based on equality and equal security and to strengthen confidence among States and nations. The peoples of Europe and the entire world are now living in an exceptional time which requires the answer to a crucially important question: are we going to begin a new cycle in the arms race or will we make further progress in strengthening peace in Europe and beyond Europe?

The National Assembly of the People's Republic of Bulgaria appreciates and decisively supports the new, extremely timely and constructive peace proposals of the Soviet Union, presented in concert with the States signatories to the Warsaw Treaty in the statement made at Berlin on 6 October 1979 by Leonid Ilyich Brezhnev, the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Soviet Union.

The members of the Bulgarian National Assembly are particularly concerned and point out that the implementation of the NATO decision will also have a harmful effect on the situation in the Balkan peninsula. If new United States nuclear weapons are installed in Western Europe, the security of the Balkan peoples would be more seriously threatened, since the range of these weapons extends to the Balkans as well.

Bulgaria will continue in the future to play a role in the struggle against the forces of war and confrontation and for the strengthening of peace, security and détente in Europe and throughout the world.

The seventh National Assembly, meeting in its twelfth session, has adopted this Declaration at its first meeting, on 18 December 1979, and has affixed thereto the seal of State.

THE PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA

(Signed) Dr. Vladimir Bonev