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GENERAL AND COMPLETE DISARMAMENT

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

Letter dated 3 July 1981 from the Chargé d'Affaires a.i. of the
Permanent Mission of the German Democratic Republic to the
United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you the text of the declaration of the People's Chamber of the German Democratic Republic adopted at its constituent session on 25 June 1981.

I should be grateful if you would distribute this declaration as an official document of the General Assembly under items 55 and 58 of the preliminary list.

(Signed) Siegfried ZACHMANN
Ambassador Extraordinary
and Plenipotentiary
Chargé d'Affaires a.i.

* A/36/50.

ANNEX

25 June 1981

DECLARATION OF THE PEOPLE'S CHAMBER OF THE GERMAN
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

Deeply moved, the People's Chamber of the German Democratic Republic takes note of the appeal of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR to the parliaments and peoples of the world.

The supreme body of elected representatives of the people of the socialist German state solemnly declares:
This new powerful call for peace comes from the supreme organ of the very people who, fighting on the crucial front of the anti-Hitler coalition, accomplished the decisive feat for ending the most devastating war in the history of mankind. In these days, which coincide with the 40th anniversary of the fascist Hitler regime's treacherous attack on the socialist Soviet Union, a resounding call for peace rings out from the very country which, 36 years ago, liberated peoples from the yoke of fascism and which, ever since, has ensured the longest period of peace in this century.

The peace appeal of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR comes at a time when international peace is once again in grave jeopardy. The change of direction in the policy of aggressive militarist forces to a course of confrontation, superarmament, interference and fomentation of conflicts is fraught with the risk of not only destroying the peoples' hard-won fruits of detente, but also plunging mankind into the abyss of an atomic disaster.

The sabotaging of the Strategic Arms Limitation Agreements is designed to enable the unimpeded manufacture of new, still more sophisticated weapons of mass destruction. Just look at Europe, whose nations were hit hardest by two devastating world wars and which has already huge stockpiles of mass destruction weapons on its soil, where hurried efforts are being made to deploy new death-bringing American missiles.

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The so-called threat from the east - the greatest lie of the century - is being brought into play to delude the peoples and upset the existing military parity, so as to secure a position of superiority for imperialist forces craving for armament. While this policy has no prospects whatsoever, it is nevertheless extremely dangerous. And it is not by chance that right now, at a time of stepped-up competitive armament, the torches of conflict are being fanned in various world regions, for instance in the Middle East and Western Asia.

This mad drive for a new, all-destroying war must be stopped in time. To do so we are in duty bound by our respect for the 20 million victims among the heroic Soviet people and the victims among the other peoples as well as by our responsibility for the present and future generations. To do so is a dictate of humanity, reason and conscience.

But there is a limit to the power of the warmongers, if the peoples bar their way now. Peace will be, if the peoples fight for it. Peace will be, if there are negotiations at once instead of further armament. The Soviet Union, the socialist countries have tabled realistic and constructive proposals for businesslike negotiations in the interest of peace and for the good of the peoples. No escalating of armaments must be tolerated, no delaying of the proposed negotiations be allowed. It must not be permitted that ever new preconditions are laid down, resulting in a loss of precious time for disarmament talks and, hence, in a gain of time for the frenzied arms race.

Dearing in mind its great national and international responsibility and living up to the chief mandate it has received from the electorate, the supreme legislative body of the German Democratic Republic raises its voice in full support of the peace appeal of the Supreme Soviet of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

In its turn, the People's Chamber of the German Democratic Republic calls on the parliaments and peoples of all states:

Let us lose no time, not one single hour that may be essential for the lives of our peoples.

Let us spare no effort.

Let us negotiate at once and work together to check the perils of war and to safeguard man's paramount treasure - peace.