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THE SITUATION IN AFGHANISTAN
AND ITS IMPLICATIONS FOR
INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND
SECURITY

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-fourth year

Letter dated 10 April 1989 from the Permanent Representative of
Bulgaria to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of the message sent by His Excellency Mr. Todor Zhivkov, Secretary-General of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party and President of the State Council of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, to His Excellency Mr. Najibullah, President of the Republic of Afghanistan (see annex).

I have further the honour to request that the present letter and its annex be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under item 32 of the preliminary list, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Alexander STRESOV
First Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs
Permanent Representative of the
People's Republic of Bulgaria
to the United Nations

* A/44/50/Rev.1.

ANNEX

Message sent by the Secretary-General of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party and President of the State Council of the People's Republic of Bulgaria to the President of the Republic of Afghanistan

On behalf of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party, the State Council and the Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, and on behalf of the people of Bulgaria, I would like once again to reiterate our consistent fraternal solidarity with the heroic struggle of the Afghan people, with the consistent policy of the party and government leadership of the Republic of Afghanistan aimed at halting the bloodshed, and at achieving the long-awaited peace on Afghan soil, and the creation of an independent, non-aligned and neutral Afghanistan.

The policy of national reconciliation proclaimed and currently implemented by the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan is vivid proof of the courage and maturity of your party and its leadership, who are well aware of their historical responsibility for the future of Afghanistan. We are convinced that this policy, which is fully in line with the philosophy of the new political thinking, is the only realistic way to stop the long and destructive war among brothers and to establish the conditions for uniting all patriotic forces into a broad coalition.

The far-reaching and constructive approach of the Governments of the Soviet Union and Afghanistan has been convincingly enhanced by the signing of the Geneva agreements, which, if honoured strictly by all sides, would create the conditions necessary for finding a just and lasting solution of the problems surrounding Afghanistan. We welcome the willingness of the Republic of Afghanistan and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to meet their part of the obligations stemming from these agreements. We also welcome the principles formulated by the Soviet Union and Afghanistan on regulating the situation in Afghanistan by means of dialogue with the participation of all parties concerned. These principles received universal recognition and were unanimously approved at the forty-third session of the United Nations General Assembly. We are actively supporting your initiative on the calling of an international conference on Afghanistan under the auspices of the United Nations and we express our conviction that the setting up of a government based on a broad coalition in your country would become possible only if the People's Democratic Party were represented in that government.

Now, when it is more than ever necessary to utilize all opportunities for overcoming Afghanistan's internal differences through peaceful negotiations, all attempts to resolve the conflict by establishing separatist Governments of the kind of the so-called Interim Afghan Government, proclaimed outside Afghanistan, are denounced by the peace-loving and progressive public, both in Afghanistan and abroad. Refusing to accept the prevalent realities, the armed opposition based abroad and aided by its mentors in the region and overseas, is carrying out a further escalation of the military conflict. Through its ill-conceived actions, the so-called Alliance of Seven is wholly to blame for the rekindling of the

conflict, the increased bloodshed, the innumerable victims and destruction. We are indignant over the continuing interference in Afghanistan's internal affairs by countries that have signed the Geneva agreements.

The period of time that has elapsed since the completion of the withdrawal of the limited Soviet military contingent and the general development of events show beyond the shadow of a doubt that the legitimate Government of Afghanistan is fully in a position to put up a determined defence against any attempt at armed aggression, to protect the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the country. We value highly the enormous patience, consistency and determination with which the People's Democratic Party of the Republic of Afghanistan and you personally are in this difficult moment defending the principles of national reconciliation, the policy of preserving life on Afghan soil, the right of your people to a peaceful future. We truly admire the heroism of the Afghan soldiers, the selfless defenders of the Salang Pass, of Jelalabad, Kandahar and Kabul.

At this important moment for you and your people, we would like once again to express our determination to strengthen and broaden the relations of fraternal friendship and co-operation between our two parties and peoples. We will continue to render moral, material and political support to the Afghan people, both on a bilateral basis and in the international arena. As you may be aware, the People's Republic of Bulgaria has already announced its decision to participate in the United Nations assistance programme for Afghanistan.

In conclusion, I would like to wish you personally, dear Comrade Najibullah, good health, strength and determination and every success in your highly responsible and patriotic work aimed at providing a bright future for the freedom-loving and heroic Afghan people, at strengthening peace in the region and worldwide.
