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15th December, 1970

CORRIGENDUM to
POLADS(70)61
(English text only)

Corrigendum to POLADS(70)61
dated 9th December 1970

Please replace Annex III by the attached text,
which is the English translation issued by TASS in
Moscow of the document on European security.

NATO
1110 Brussels

N A T O U N C L A S S I F I E D

STATEMENT ON QUESTIONS OF STRENGTHENING
SECURITY AND DEVELOPING PEACEFUL CO-OPERATION
IN EUROPE

"The People's Republic of Bulgaria, the Hungarian People's Republic, the German Democratic Republic, the Polish People's Republic, the Socialist Republic of Rumania, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic represented at the meeting of the Political Consultative Committee of Warsaw Treaty member states in Berlin, studied the situation taking shape in Europe.

The meeting notes with satisfaction that the efforts exerted by socialist countries effectively enhance the improvement of the situation in the European continent and the practical implementation of principles of the peaceful co-existence of states with different social systems. It was stated that tendencies towards a détente and an extensive good-neighbourly co-operation are gaining ground lately in relations between European States.

The States, represented at the meeting, welcome such a progress of European affairs which accords with the interests of all countries of Europe, large and small, the safeguarding of an enduring world peace. They are going to continue facilitating the extension and deepening of mutually advantageous relations with other European States which, on their part, are prepared to pursue a policy of relaxation of international tension. Once again, the necessity was stressed of strict observance of the principles of independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity, equality and non-intervention into the domestic affairs of others, in the relations between all states.

The meeting participants emphasised the great international significance of the conclusion of the Treaty between the USSR and the FRG and the initialling of the treaty between the Polish People's Republic and the FRG. Recognition of the existing situation in Europe, which took shape as a result of World War Two and post-war development, inviolability of the present frontiers of the European States, observance of the principle of settling disputes exclusively through peaceful means, not resorting to force or the threat of its use - all this is of tremendous significance for the destinies of European peace, for the peaceful future of the European peoples. The entry into force of these Treaties will accord with the vital interests of all States and peoples.

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The participants in the meeting unanimously expressed solidarity with the peaceloving policy of the German Democratic Republic. The entire development in Europe shows that the edifice of stable peace in this area cannot be built without the GDR's participation. The establishment of equal relations between the German Democratic Republic and other states which have not yet established such relations, including relations between the GDR and the FRG based on generally accepted norms of international law, the acceptance of the GDR into the United Nations organization and other international organizations as a full-fledged member are vital demands of the times and would be a substantial contribution to the cause of European and international security.

The states represented at the meeting fully support the just demand of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic that the FRG recognise the Munich Agreement as invalid from the outset with all the resulting consequences. The FRG's clear and final dissociation from this diktat, which embodied the Hitlerite policy of plunder, would facilitate an improvement of the situation in Europe and a development of the FRG's relations with socialist countries.

It was noted at the conference that pre-conditions are taking shape for a settlement of other problems existing in Europe and hope was expressed in this connection that the current talks on West Berlin will end in the attainment of a mutually acceptable agreement meeting the interests of détente in the centre of Europe, as well as the requirements of the population of West Berlin and the lawful interests and sovereign rights of the GDR.

The participants in the meeting expressed their conviction that the convocation of the all-European Conference on questions of security and co-operation would be a new major stage along the road of consolidating peace in Europe.

Sufficient pre-conditions for the holding of such a conference have now been created as a result of the preparatory work already done. The agenda is known in general outline, the participants in the conference have been determined and a broad basis has been laid for mutual understanding and for ensuring positive results of the conference. At present, along with bilateral contacts, the holding of multilateral consultations with the participation of all interested states is needed to reach agreement on all questions connected with the convocation of the conference. Many European States have come out for this.

The participants in the meeting received with satisfaction the new initiative of the Finnish Government on the holding of preparatory meetings of all interested states in Helsinki on questions connected with the convocation of the all-European Conference. The States represented at the meeting declare their readiness to take part in such meetings called upon to facilitate the practical preparation of the all-European Conference.

There are no reasons whatever to delay with the convocation of the conference, to advance any preliminary terms. The movement for security and co-operation on the European continent is acquiring an increasingly broad and mass nature. The socialist states, attending the meeting, are fully resolved to do everything in their power for putting into effect the will of the European peoples for peace.

The meeting participants note that the opponents of relaxation of tension and peaceful co-existence in Europe have not stopped their dangerous activity. In this connection attention was drawn to the increased activity of aggressive NATO circles, provocative actions of revenge-seeking and militaristic forces in the FRG, ceaseless attempts from the outside to retard the development of favourable processes on the European continent. Firm confidence was expressed that the peace forces of Europe are able to overcome the obstacles, put up by the foes of peace, and through joint efforts to accomplish the task of safeguarding a dependable peace in that part of the world.

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The meeting participants reaffirmed the position on European Security, on relaxation of tension and disarmament, set out in the Bucharest Declaration of 5th July, 1966.

The meeting participants expressed the determination of the Parties and Governments of their countries to continue taking concerted joint actions in the international arena for the sake of safeguarding dependable security in Europe and throughout the world. With these objects in view, each of them will continue the active policy of peace, relaxation of tension and broad international co-operation."

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