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**Information regarding the Views of the General Staffs of the Warsaw Treaty Member States  
on the NATO Project on "The Mandate for Negotiations on Conventional Stability in  
Europe" of 27 July 1987, 10 August 1987**

**Top Secret**

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**INFORMATION**

**regarding the views of the General Staffs of the Warsaw Treaty member states on the project on "The Mandate for Negotiations on Conventional Stability in Europe", submitted by NATO member states on 27 July 1987 at the 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the Vienna CSCE conference**

On 5 August 1987, a meeting of the chiefs of staff of the Warsaw Treaty member states was held in Moscow. It discussed the project on the mandate for negotiations on Armed Forces and Conventional Weapons, received from the NATO member states on 27 July 1987.

The meeting noted that by submitting the project NATO has finally responded to our Budapest initiative. ... NATO agrees to hold talks, which is a clear progress.

[ . . . ]

It was noted that NATO countries seek to pose the question of the comparison of the opposing groupings mainly in Central Europe because, according to them, on the territories of Poland, East Germany, Czechoslovakia and Hungary, the Warsaw Treaty holds superiority over NATO. At the same time, however, the comparison between the two groupings in the southwestern theatre has been avoided.

The meeting finds it necessary to prepare a common position on issues such as: a) which areas of the territories of Bulgaria, Romania, Greece and Turkey; and b) which US units in the Eastern Mediterranean area should be included in the agenda of the negotiations. ...

On the question of control, it was stated that it is probable that many disagreements will occur. However, in the project of the mandate, proposed by NATO, this issue is not dealt with in detail. The meeting considered paying attention to it unnecessary.

10. 08. 1987

[Source: Diplomatic Archive, Sofia, Opis 57b, a.e. 181, pp. 120-126. Summary by Vanya Petkova]