

Information from the Bulgarian Prime Minister (Atanasov) regarding the Visit of the GDR Prime Minister (Stoph), 18 July 1989

RE: GDR Prime Minister's Visit in Bulgaria

During visit to Bulgaria on 29-30 June 1989 by GDR Prime Minister Willi Stoph, he and Bulgarian Prime Minister Georgi Atanasov informed each other about the aims and positions of their respective countries. Stoph emphasized political and economic stability of the GDR and its continued building of a developed socialist society. He said that GDR foreign policy aims to actively contribute to the strengthening of peace and security. According to Stoph, the relations with the Soviet Union were the indisputable priority for the GDR as its closest ally and most important economic partner. He said that the recent meeting between Gorbachev and Honecker in Moscow was expected to give new impulses for the development of brotherly relations between the two Parties and States.

The GDR does not approve of the current political processes in Hungary and Poland. In Hungary, restoration of a bourgeois parliamentary society and a counter-revolution are under way. The beginning of a similar process can be observed in Poland, too.

Stoph expressed a view on the events in China identical with the Chinese position. He praised the results of the high level Soviet-Chinese meeting.

The conversation included discussion about cooperation within the COMECON "Comprehensive Program for Scientific and Technological Progress Until the Year 2000" and coordination of economic plans for the period of 1991-1995.

[Source: Bulgarian Central State Archives, Sofia, Fond 1b, Opis 35, a.e. 147-189. Summary by Svetoslava Antonova]