

**Memorandum of Discussion between a Bulgarian (Nastev) and a Soviet Diplomat (Savelyev)
on the Warsaw Treaty Working Group Meeting, 29 January 1990**

Memorandum of meeting

From: Boris Rachev – senior attaché at "General International Affairs" Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Sofia

Subject: A meeting between A. Nastev, head of GIA department with Vladimir Savelyev, counselor at the Soviet Embassy in Bulgaria

On Jan 29, 1990, a meeting took place between com. A. Nastev, head of GIA and Vladimir Savelev, counselor at the Embassy of the USSR at the request of the latter.

In the very beginning, com. Savelyev presented to com. Nastev a new plan for the meeting of the Warsaw Treaty Current Mutual Information Multilateral Group (CMIMG).

[...]

Com. Savelyev said that his leadership had always considered CMIMG as an important opportunity for exchanging positions on topical issues, especially in the framework of political upheavals in the allied states. In many of them... new social forces came to power, new coalition governments were formed and heretofore ruling communist and workers parties set about a radical restructuring. In this respect the CMIMG meetings were an important source of new information and helped a great deal in creating a true idea of the possible shifts in the foreign policy courses of the allied states.

Com. Nastev replied to this analysis, saying that the level of CMIMG was too low for the presentation of official positions about issues concerning the alliance's policy. If there was a need for clarification, it should be brought in on a regular level.

[...]

Com. Savelyev shared the view that the enthusiasm of the new governments in Hungary and Czechoslovakia concerning the withdrawal of Soviet troops from their territories has subsided a little. He thinks that the Soviet authorities managed to persuade them that, having in mind the territorial claims of Germany, a gradual withdrawal of the Soviet troops is above all in their interest.

[Source: Diplomatic Archive, Opis 47-10, a.e. 30, pp. 3-4. Translation by Vasil Yovchev]