

## **TELEGRAM**

Sender : Embassy of the SR Romania at Moscow      Date : January 15, 1973

---

Today, at 15.00, the proceedings began of the conference of the ministers of foreign affairs of the states participating in the Warsaw Treaty.

The first meeting was chaired by Olszowski, minister of foreign affairs of Poland. The agenda of the meeting was agreed upon.

1. Regarding the preparatory consultations with a view to holding the talks connected with the scaling down of the armed forces and armaments in Europe.

2. Issues related to the multilateral consultations in relation to the convening of the General European Conference for Security and Collaboration.

A.A. Gromyko was the first speaker (the integral text of his speech is given in the Appendix).

After A.A. Gromyko, it was I that took the floor (the text of my intervention is given in the Appendix). I thought that that was the appropriate moment to make known our point of view, that is to say before the other speakers told their opinion.

Further on, the ministers of foreign affairs of Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria, Hungary, German Democratic Republic, and Poland took the floor. All of them declared that they agreed with the appreciations, manner of tackling, and formulations contained in A.A. Gromyko's speech.

The following supplementary elements are to be remarked:

a/ The ministers of foreign affairs of Czechoslovakia, GDR, and Poland strongly underscored the necessity of a close collaboration and of joint actions.

b/ Referring to the contribution of the USSR, the ministers of foreign affairs of Czechoslovakia and the GDR spoke about the great importance – for European security – of the meeting between L.I. Brezhnev and Georges Pompidou.

c/ The minister of foreign affairs of Hungary, whose speech was improvised, asserted that one had not to wait for the solution of all of the issues linked with Europe to start the negotiations regarding the reduction of armed forces and armaments. This idea was illustrated with the following example: the war in Vietnam and the situation in the Middle East are related to European security; if the Soviet Union had waited until the Vietnam issue was solved, the Soviet-American [summit] would not have taken place and the agreements between the two states would not have been concluded.

Gromyko did not budge when he heard this assertion.

d/ The minister of foreign affairs of GDR declared that the issues connected with the peace treaty with West Germany were solved and expressed

the wish for the socialist countries to reject the theses according to which the German issue was [still] open and required the conclusion of a peace treaty.

The meeting tomorrow morning will be chaired by the Romanian representative. Gromyko manifested his wish to make some considerations at the outset of the meeting.

Afterwards, the second point of the agenda will be approached.

Today's proceedings have taken place in a calm, working atmosphere.

George Macovescu

*[Translated by Viorel Buta]*