

Information from Deputy Prime Minister Gen. Ivan Mihailov on the possibilities of export of ammunitions to Czechoslovakia for re-export in third countries, 14 March 1956

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Secret

INFORMATION

From Deputy Prime Minister
General of Army Ivan Mihailov

On report No. 025 from 14 January 1956 of the
ministers of foreign trade and of heavy industry

Comrade Prime Minister,

With a Council of Ministers Resolution from 11 October 1955 it was assigned to Ministry of foreign trade to explore all possibilities and lead negotiations for export of ammunitions and old military equipment to Czechoslovakia, with a goal to realize a re-export for certain capitalist countries.

The current exploration by the Engineering Department at Ministry of foreign trade and by our trade representative in Prague specified that for the time being there exist interest only toward cartridges caliber 7.7 mm, sample 303.

On 31 December 1955 Main Technical Directorate at the Czechoslovak Ministry of foreign trade issued a request for delivery of 26 million cartridges caliber 7.7 mm.

[...]

The agreed clauses are mutually beneficial for the both countries.

Czechoslovak Main Technical Directorate suggest that the delivery to be realized on price of 236 rubles for 1 000 cartridges f. o. r. Soviet-Afghanistan border – Termez.

The Czechoslovak side suggests that the deadline for the delivery will be 30 July 1956.

[...]

Ministry of finances considers that the proposal should be accepted. From their information it is viewed that the deal is profitable. The whole production will cost about 24 million leva, but with the currency, received after the deal, it is possible to import goods for about 31 million leva.

I also consider the proposal as expedient.

Sofia, 14 March 1956

DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER:

GENERAL OF ARMY [Ivan Mihailov]

[Translated by Greta Keremidchieva]