

Report from Minister of Foreign Trade for armament delivery to Nigeria,

26 September 1970

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Top Secret

TO THE PRIME MINISTER
OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA

REPORT

from Lachezar Avramov - Minister of foreign trade

REFERENCE: Export of special equipment to the Federation of Nigeria

Our country supported the Federation of Nigeria, delivering large quantities of special equipment until the end of the civil war in the end of 1969. In the period 1968 – 1969 equipment amounting to 12 000 000 dollars convertible currency was exported. In 1969 new contracts for special equipment were signed, amounting to 12 000 000 dollars for 1970.

After the end of the civil war, the Federation of Nigeria expressed a desire to annul the last contracts with Bulgaria regarding special equipment to be delivered in 1970.

Nigeria is facing serious financial difficulties. The economy has been destroyed by the war and efforts are being made to restore it. Almost the whole

budget is being spent on the reconstruction of the economy and the settlement of serious social problems.

Nigeria will not be in a position to purchase special equipment in future by cash payment, and will address other countries, capable of offering a credit.

It is likely that the Nigerians will agree to make a long-term agreement for the period 1970-1975 to purchase special equipment from Bulgaria, in case our government gives a credit for this purpose.

Our country has good reputation with the Nigerian government, which was supplied by us during the war. Giving the credit will allow us to keep our positions at the Nigerian market and to strengthen our reputation.

In regard to the above mentioned, I propose that the Council of Ministers come up with the following

ORDER:

1. To permit a credit, at the amount of 15 million dollars for the period 1970-1975, for special deliveries to the Federation of Nigeria. The credit term will be 5-8 years, with 2,5 % simple interest.
2. The Ministry of foreign trade shall do the necessary preparation to reach a long-term agreement for special deliveries and military technical cooperation with the Federation of Nigeria.

MINISTER: [Lachezar Avramov]

Coordinated with:

Chairman of State Planning Committee*

Minister of finance

No. P-00550/26.IX.1970

[Translated by Greta Keremidchieva]

* Handwritten note: *It is desirable 2/3 on credit, and 1/3 in cash. 30 September 1970.*