

Standpoint from CC BCP International Relations Department re: proposal by Minister of Foreign Affairs for free arms delivery to Zanzibar, 18 March 1964

[Source: Central State Archive, Sofia, Fond 136, Record 86, File 628, p. 8-9]

TO CC BCP SECRETARIAT

INFORMATION

A proposal has come in by Ministry of foreign affairs our country to render material aid to Republic of Zanzibar at the amount of 30 000 leva. (in military equipment and medicine) and to send for one year five Bulgarian experts.

Zanzibar has been declared a People's Republic on 12 January 1964, a month after the announcement of the independence, and after the coup that overthrew Sultan's government. Zanzibarian government declared in its official statements that will lead the country on a Socialist way. It established immediately diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union, and the other socialist countries, including the GDR. People's Republic of Bulgaria recognized the new revolutionary government on 21 January, and on 5 March it was announced that the two countries have established diplomatic relations and will exchange diplomatic missions with the rank of Embassies.

Our charge to Tanganyika had talks with representatives of the revolutionary government and with representatives of the socialist missions in Zanzibar, and suggests to render immediately certain material aid to this country, which will contribute for the establishment of favorable conditions for our further contacts and cooperation.

CC BCP "Foreign Policy and International Relations" Department supports the proposal of comrade Ivan Bashev, and puts forward respective draft of a resolution.

The proposal has been coordinated as well with Ministry of foreign trade (Engineering Department), Bulgarian Red Cross, and with comrade lachezar Avramov.

18 March 1964

Head of CC BCP “Foreign Policy and International Relations”

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*[Translated by Greta Keremidchieva]*