Thirty-sixth session
FIRST COMMITTEE
Agenda items 51, 55, 57 and 58

REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS AND DECISIONS
ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AT ITS TENTH SPECIAL SESSION
GENERAL AND COMPLETE DISARMAMENT
DEVELOPMENT AND STRENGTHENING OF GOOD-NEIGHBOURLINESS BETWEEN STATES
REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE
STRENGTHENING OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

Letter dated 11 November 1981 from the Permanent Representative of
Bulgaria to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to forward to you excerpts from the speech by Todor Zhivkov,
General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party and
President of the State Council of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, delivered at
the ceremonial meeting dedicated to the 1300th anniversary of the founding of the
Bulgarian State, held in Sofia on 20 October 1981.

I would appreciate very much if this letter and the attached text are
circulated as an official document of the General Assembly under items 51, 55, 57
and 58 of the agenda of the thirty-sixth session of the General Assembly.

(Signed) Boris Tsvetkov
Permanent Representative of Bulgaria
to the United Nations

* Re-issued for technical reasons.
EXCERPTS FROM THE SPEECH BY TODOR ZHIVKOV, GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE
CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE BULGARIAN COMMUNIST PARTY AND PRESIDENT OF
THE STATE COUNCIL OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA, DELIVERED
AT THE CEREMONIAL MEETING DEDICATED TO THE 1300TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
FOUNDING OF THE BULGARIAN STATE, HELD IN SOFIA ON 20 OCTOBER 1981

The year 1981 has been a troubled year. The course to a sharp aggravation of
the international situation, to stepping up the arms race, to confrontation and
conflicts steered by the imperialist and reactionary circles, has made progressive
mankind shudder at the threat of a possible nuclear annihilation.

Peace is in danger, peace must be saved!

The 12th Congress of the Bulgarian Communist Party reaffirmed the consistent
foreign policy of principle of the People's Republic of Bulgaria. We stand for
peace and peaceful coexistence, for developing mutually beneficial political,
economic, cultural, scientific and technical co-operation among States, for
familiarization and friendship among peoples.

Bulgaria has done and will do its best to strengthen détente and peace, to
implement the Peace Programme for the 1980s adopted by the 26th Congress of the
Communist Party of the Soviet Union, to ensure the success of the peace initiatives
of the socialist countries, of the revolutionary and democratic forces in the world.

The People's Republic of Bulgaria has done and will do everything possible to
develop its relations with the Balkan countries, to strengthen peace and
good-neighbourliness.

The Balkans are inhabited by peoples who have for centuries maintained active
contacts, drawing on common cultural sources and favourably influencing each other.

The most important of the dramatic lessons of the past, earned with blood,
suffering and national catastrophes, is that only the policy of peace and
understanding, of friendship and co-operation corresponds to the interests of the
Balkan peoples. We appreciate what has been achieved in the past few years. We
believe that by common effort we can and should turn the Balkans into a model of
good-neighbourly relations, co-operation and peace. Bulgaria stretches out her
hand, she is ready to sign bilateral agreements with the Balkan countries,
including a code of good-neighbourly relations and a renunciation of any
territorial claims; she is ready to participate in the further expansion of
co-operation.

We firmly support the idea of turning the Balkans into a nuclear-free zone.
We propose that a meeting of the leaders of the Balkan States be held in Sofia as
early as next year to discuss this problem. The turning of the Balkans into a
nuclear-weapon-free zone would correspond to the interests of our peoples. It
would be a substantial contribution to the improvement of the international
climate, to the gradual transformation of Europe into a continent free of nuclear
arms; it would be one more victory of peace.

We are optimistic: mankind should not, cannot, will not perish! Our Earth
will revolve along its solar orbit even more magnificent and peace will reign
supreme on it forever.