Twelfth special session
AD HOC COMMITTEE OF THE
TWELFTH SPECIAL SESSION
Agenda items 9 and 11

REVIEW OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS AND DECISIONS
ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AT ITS TENTH SPECIAL SESSION

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION OF THE 1980s AS THE SECOND
DISARMAMENT DECADE AND CONSIDERATION OF INITIATIVES AND
PROPOSALS OF MEMBER STATES

Letter dated 24 June 1982 from the Acting Chairman of the Delegation
of the German Democratic Republic to the Chairman of the Ad Hoc
Committee of the Twelfth Special Session

I have the honour to submit to you a working paper of the German Democratic
Republic entitled "Prohibition of the nuclear neutron weapon".

May I request you to arrange for that working paper to be circulated as a
document of the twelfth special session of the General Assembly under agenda items
9 and 11.

(Signed) Harald ROSE
Ambassador
Acting Head of Delegation
ANNEX

Working paper

Prohibition of the nuclear neutron weapon

1. With reference to paragraph 50 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session and to General Assembly resolution 36/92 K (Review of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session: prohibition of the nuclear neutron weapon), the German Democratic Republic proposes the following for inclusion in the decisions and recommendations of the twelfth special session:

"1. The General Assembly energetically declares that the nuclear neutron weapon must be banned. The Committee on Disarmament is requested to start without delay negotiations in an appropriate organizational framework with a view to concluding a convention on the prohibition of the production, stockpiling, deployment and use of nuclear neutron weapons, thereby contributing, as a matter of urgency and in accordance with paragraph 50 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session, towards the cessation of the qualitative improvement and development of nuclear-weapon systems.

"2. The General Assembly calls upon the non-nuclear-weapon States to declare that they will not permit the deployment of the nuclear neutron weapon on their territories."

2. In this proposal the German Democratic Republic is guided by the considerations set forth below.

3. The inclusion of these paragraphs in a final document would correspond to the views shared by a majority of Member States that the cessation of the production of nuclear weapons, especially of the particularly inhumane weapon, is a first step and an urgent practical measure of nuclear disarmament.

4. It would be all the more important, since

(a) World-wide concern has been expressed by numerous Member States, as well as by many non-governmental organizations on the production and intended deployment of the nuclear neutron weapon,

(b) The introduction of that weapon in the military arsenals of States escalates the arms race and constitutes a qualitative improvement and development of nuclear-weapon systems,

(c) The introduction of that weapon significantly lowers the threshold to nuclear war, thereby increasing the danger of such a war, and since this particularly inhumane weapon has been characterized as a weapon par excellence for
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nuclear attack, which can be used on various delivery systems (tactical and medium-range delivery systems, cruise missiles etc.),

(d) The introduction of that weapon, seen in the framework of doctrines of limited or partial use of nuclear weapons, would give rise to illusions on the admissibility and acceptability of a nuclear conflict.

5. Attention is further drawn to the fact that negotiations on specific nuclear-weapon systems as well as specific conventional weapons are not only possible but also required. They have been conducted or will be initiated again, e.g.

- Negotiations on the limitation and reduction of strategic nuclear weapons,

- Negotiations on the limitation and reduction of medium-range nuclear weapons in Europe,

- Negotiations on the prohibition of specific conventional weapons, as embodied in the "Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May be Deemed to be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects".

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