Fifteenth special session

LETTER DATED 1 JUNE 1988 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OF BULGARIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS Addressed to the
SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to request you to have
the enclosed text of the message from His Excellency Mr. Todor Zhivkov, President
of the State Council of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, addressed to the
President of the third special session of the General Assembly devoted to
disarmament, circulated as a document of the fifteenth special session of the
General Assembly.

(Signed) Alexander STRESOV
First Deputy Foreign Minister
Permanent Representative

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ANNEX

Message from the President of the State Council of Bulgaria addressed to the President of the third special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament

The third special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament is taking place at a turning-point in international affairs. The world is following the active and constructive dialogue under way between the Soviet Union and the United States. We have seen the first serious steps towards the strengthening of international security: the conclusion of the treaty on the elimination of intermediate-range and shorter-range missiles, and the quadrilateral Geneva agreements to settle the situation around Afghanistan. The results of the Moscow talks between Mikhail Gorbachev and Ronald Reagan have once again confirmed the truth that in world politics even the greatest obstacles and prejudices can be overcome through common sense and good will. The new political thinking is further gaining ground in inter-State relations and concern for universal values is increasingly getting the upper hand over narrowly defined class and national interests.

Millions of people throughout the world, united in various mass movements against the nuclear threat, share in the satisfaction and the justified feeling of having contributed to these successes.

Mankind may now take a break, but cannot fold its arms yet. War and militarism - both in theory and practice - continue to coexist on our planet with the struggle of peoples for peace and peaceful co-operation. Whether these positive trends will prevail and turn into a lasting and irreversible process depends mostly upon forums like the third special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament.

The Bulgarian public expects that the third special session will consider the urgent problems of international life in a positive and constructive spirit and identify the basic goals of further developing and strengthening the disarmament process, as well as the conditions, ways and means of achieving these goals both on Earth and in outer space. It is essential for the special session to call for giving substance to the concept of the relationship between disarmament and development.

I should like to take this opportunity to assure you that the People's Republic of Bulgaria is ready to continue its efforts aimed at transforming the Balkan peninsula into a zone free from weapons of mass destruction and actively to make a contribution to the whole multifaceted process of halting the arms race.

I wish the participants in the third special session devoted to disarmament fruitful work in rendering the process of disarmament continuous and irreversible in character.

Todor ZHIVKOV