

of the Lower House Foreign Affairs Committee and Minister-President of North Rhine-Westphalia, (Karl) Arnold; Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Bundestag (George) Kiesinger; Deputy Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Bundestag (Dr. Carl Schmid; Ambassador (Dr. Herbert) Blankenhorn; Ambassador (Felix) von Eckardt; Ministerial Director Dr. Growe.

During the talks, which took place in an atmosphere of mutual understanding, there took place a broad and frank exchange of views on the question of the mutual relations between the Soviet Union and the Federal German Republic. During the talks the question of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the Soviet Union and the Federal German Republic was discussed.

An agreement was reached, and expressed in letters exchanged by the parties, with a view to obtaining the approval of the Federal Government and of the Bundestag, as well as of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet, for the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries, and the setting up to this end, of embassies respectively in Bonn and in Moscow, and to the exchange of diplomatic representatives of the rank of extraordinary and plenipotentiary ambassadors.

Both delegations agreed that the establishment of diplomatic relations would contribute to the development of mutual understanding and cooperation between the Soviet Union and the German Federal Republic in the interests of peace and security in Europe.

The parties are starting from the assumption that the establishment and development of normal relations between the Soviet Union and the Federal German Republic will further the settlement of pending problems affecting the whole of Germany, and must thus help the solution of the principal national problem of the German people, the reestablishment of the unity of the Germany democratic state.

In confirmation of the agreement reached, the Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Soviet Union and Federal Chancellor of the German Federal Republic exchanged letters, the text of which is annexed. The parties also agreed that negotiations should shortly be negotiated between the German Federal Republic and the Soviet Union on the problems of the development of trade.

*Letter from Premier Bulganin to Chancellor Adenauer, September 13, 1955*¹

In connection with the agreement reached in the course of negotiations between the Government delegations of the Soviet Union and the German Federal Republic, I have the honor to confirm that the Soviet Government has taken the decision to establish diplomatic relations with the Government of the German Federal Republic and to effect an exchange of diplomatic representatives with the rank of Ambassador Plenipotentiary and Extraordinary.

The Soviet Government expresses its confidence that the establishment of diplomatic relations will contribute toward the development of mutual understanding and cooperation between the Soviet Union

¹ Department of State files. An analogous letter was sent by Chancellor Adenauer to Premier Bulganin.

and the German Federal Republic in the interests of peace and security in Europe.

The Soviet Government is guided by the fact that the establishment and development of normal relations between the Soviet Union and the German Federal Republic will contribute to the solution of outstanding problems concerning the whole of Germany and will thus contribute also to the solution of the main common national problems of the German people—the establishment of a united democratic German state.

I deem it necessary to state that the agreement of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the Soviet Union and the German Federal Republic will enter into force from the moment of confirmation by the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R.

I ask you to accept my regards and assurances of my great esteem.

Letter from Chancellor Adenauer to Premier Bulganin, Stating Certain Reservations at the Time of Establishing Diplomatic Relations, September 13, 1955¹

Mr. President, on the occasion of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the Government of the Federal Republic and the Government of the USSR I state:

1. The establishment of the diplomatic relations between the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany and the Government of the USSR does not constitute a recognition of the present territorial status on both sides. The final delimitation of the German borders remains reserved to the Peace Treaty.

2. The establishment of diplomatic relations with the Government of the Soviet Union does not mean a revision of the legal point of view of the Federal Government regarding its powers to represent the German nation in international affairs and with respect to the political conditions in those German territories which are at present outside of its effective sovereignty.

Treaty Between the Soviet Union and the German Democratic Republic, September 20, 1955²

The President of the GDR and the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, guided by the desire for a development of close cooperation and for the further strengthening of the friendly relations between the GDR and the USSR on the basis of equality, mutual respect of the sovereignty and noninterference in domestic affairs, in view of the new situation which has arisen owing to the coming into force of the Paris Agreements of 1954, convinced that the concerted efforts of the GDR and the Soviet Union to cooperate in the preservation and consolidation of peace and of security in Europe, and to restore the unity of Germany as a peace-loving and Democratic state, and to bring about a peace settlement with Germany in the form of a treaty,

¹ Department of State files. For German text see *Bulletin des Presse und Informationsamtes der Bundesregierung*, Sonderausgabe, Bonn, September 20, 1955.

² *New York Times*, September 21, 1955. The treaty entered into force October 6, 1955.