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~~AC/89-WP/209/3~~

~~SUB-COMMITTEE ON SOVIET ECONOMIC POLICY~~

~~CONSTRUCTION OF NUCLEAR ENERGY PLANTS IN THE EUROPEAN SATELLITE COUNTRIES~~

Comments by the German Delegation on AC/89-WP/209/1

Re paragraph 2

We share the opinion that after 1980 the amount of coal extracted in Rumania, Poland and Bulgaria would be capable of being expanded above the present planning figures. However, the responsible authorities have repeatedly stated that any further increase of coal production would only be possible under much more unfavourable geological conditions so that the cost of production per ton of coal produced would rise considerably. The necessary subsidies for this purpose could hardly be made available. In addition, the coal deposits which would then be exploited would be of inferior quality (lower calorific value, higher degree of impurity, etc.). This applies particularly to Rumania and Bulgaria and to a lesser degree to Poland which, if no electrical energy were to be produced from nuclear sources, would probably have the highest average specific heat requirement (kcal/kWh) after 1980.

Re Table 1

The 10 MW reactor - construction planned to start in 1967 - is shown in the two tables as an experimental reactor and was only included for the sake of completeness since it had been referred to as a research reactor with emphasis on power production. Already because of its small size, it cannot be compared with a normal nuclear energy plant.

Re paragraph 5

So far, the German Government has not received any information on a pilot plant for producing fuel elements. It would be surprising if the USSR would tolerate the construction of such a plant as it would be contrary to Soviet energy policy to maintain, by means of contractually-agreed

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fuel deliveries, permanent control over nuclear power plants in satellite countries constructed with Soviet assistance. We should be grateful for further information (location, production procedure, beginning of operation production capacity, etc.).

Re paragraph 6

The first reports appeared in 1959. They were more in the nature of uncontrolled wishful thinking. Further reports circulated in 1962. Poland was mentioned in AC/89-WP/209, paragraph 6, in connection with the increase of capacity of the SWIERK experimental reactor from 2 to 10 MW with Soviet assistance.

Re Table of existing and planned nuclear power plants

The capacities for nuclear power plants indicated in Table 1 as being planned for 1980 have been taken from official or semi-official articles published in technical journals or newspapers.

As already stated in AC/89-WP/209, the possibilities of achieving these capacities by 1980 must be described as wishful thinking. The same applies to the capacities planned for 1975, particularly in regard to the dates planned for the beginning of operations. As far as the total capacity planned for 1975 is concerned, no comments have been included in AC/89-WP/209 because although the planned dates for the start of operation were known, information on the dates scheduled for the beginning of construction was not available. Only when the latter dates are known can a realistic appraisal be made as to whether it will be possible to meet the dates of completion.

OTAN/NATO,  
Paris, (16e).