

Document 7.

September 29, 1989, Prague – Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs to the CSSR Permanent UN Mission in New York. Report by the 4th territorial department for Minister Johanés on the meeting between Soviet ambassador Lomakin and Secretary of the CPCz Central Committee Jozef Lenárt over the issue of the GDR citizens at the Federal Republic embassy in Prague.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs Archive, Prague. Telegrams sent, 1989, vol. 9, ref. no. 3338. Translation by Todd Hammond.

On September 29, 1989 Lomakin visited Jakeš and Lenárt. He handed over the text of the Shevardnadze-Genscher conversation of September 28, 1989 about the problem of the GRD citizens at the FRG embassy in Prague.

Lenárt answered Lomakin:

1. We recommended to the GDR further ways to ease the growing tension (see the text of our Sadovský 071.893) [see Document 6]; we are expecting an answer from the GDR.
2. We will not provide any building or spaces on the basis of extraterritoriality for emigrants from the GDR. We have no intention of creating refugee camps on Czechoslovak territory.
3. We are obligated to the GDR on this matter by a number of international treaties, and we will observe them. In the context of the Czechoslovak historical experience we regard the breaking of valid treaties as “Munich-ism”.

Note: In the evening hours Spáčil reported by telephone that he had been summoned immediately to Sudhoff, who in a sharp and arrogant tone informed him that Genscher was very disappointed by the conversation with Com. Johanés. On Genscher’s order, he [Sudhoff] asked Spáčil to turn to the Czechoslovak government and urge the quick arrangement of temporary spaces for the GDR emigrants at the FRG embassy in Prague, as the situation was threatening to get out of control. He warned the CSSR that in case of refusal there would be “the most serious consequences” to bilateral relations with the FRG and other countries. Spáčil rejected this political blackmail. Lenárt, Kincl were informed. The Czechoslovak position remains unchanged.

Sadovský 071.902