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At August 14 quadripartite meeting British reported on conversation in early August between Mikoyan and Harold Wilson, Labour MP. British were unable to say whether persons other than principals and interpreter (s) were present.

Wilson opened by asking whether Mikoyan did not think Wall was a scandal and blot on Communism. Latter agreed but said Wall was necessary to prevent clashes between two halves of Berlin. Mikoyan said that whatever Soviets would do in Berlin, they would maintain tight hold on Ulbricht and would not let matters get out of hand.

Wilson asked why Sovs had not supported Western proposal for talks by frontier Commandants or suggestion on disarming of German/police. Mikoyan did not answer directly but made rude remarks about Mayor Brandt. Wilson thereupon complained about Ulbricht, saying he could not understand why Sovs, who usually use such effective tools, continue to retain such an obvious failure Mikoyan

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Mikoyan answered that Ulbricht had given good service and was good Communist of long standing, even in Kaiser's day.

Present US administration, Mikoyan said, is more reasonable than previous one in relations with USSR. He said that Sovs attach great importance to bilateral talks with US.

Wilson observed that main stumbling block in Berlin situation appeared to be Soviet objections to presence of Western troops in Berlin. He stated that Opposition in UK agreed that this point was "not negotiable." He then added that troops would not necessarily have to remain in Berlin forever. Mikoyan seized on this and wondered whether this view was shared by the Government and by the US. Wilson said he was speaking only for himself and Labour Party. Mikoyan agreed Western troop presence was big question. He then said that there would be no objection to presence in Berlin of Western troops if under UN auspices. He added that signature of separate peace treaty would not make many changes since 95% of German traffic is already controlled by East Germans ^{anyway} ~~anyway~~ and only military traffic is reserved to Soviet control. He thought West Powers were making too much of changes that would result from separate peace treaty. He said that Soviets would not permit Ulbricht to start a war. Wilson had impression Sovs had attempted to get neutral support ^{for peace treaty} but had not been very successful, particularly India.

British also reported that then Embassy at New Delhi had made inquiries at the Fonoff and had been told that during Mikoyan visit peace conference had not been discussed. Indians had said that their position was unchanged, that they would only participate in such conference if asked by both sides.

End.

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