

**September 15, 1979**  
**Cable from Soviet Foreign Minister Gromyko to  
Soviet Representatives in Kabul**

**Citation:**

"Cable from Soviet Foreign Minister Gromyko to Soviet Representatives in Kabul", September 15, 1979, Wilson Center Digital Archive, A.A. Lyakovskiy, *The Tragedy and Valour of the Afghani* (Moscow: GPI "Iskon", 1995), p. 98. Translated for CWIHP by Gary Goldberg <https://wilson-center-digital-archive.dvincitest.com/document/111563>

**Summary:**

Cable from Soviet Foreign Minister Gromyko to Soviet Representatives in Kabul expressing the necessity of dealing with Amin but that representatives should try to prevent repression against Taraki's supporters

**Original Language:**

Russian

**Contents:**

Translation - English

To Soviet Representatives in Kabul

1. It is acknowledged to be expedient, considering the real state of affairs as it is developing in Afghanistan, not to refuse to deal with H. Amin and the leadership which he heads. In this regard it is necessary to use all means to restrain H. Amin from repressions of supporters of N. Taraki and other people who are not pleasing to him, who are not enemies of the revolution. At the same time it is necessary to use contacts with H. Amin for further discerning his political personnel and intentions.

2. It is also acknowledged to be expedient for our military advisors who are attached to the Afghan forces, and also the advisors in the organs of security and internal affairs, to remain at their posts. They should fulfill their immediate functions connected with the preparation and conduct of military actions against rebel formations and other counter-revolutionary forces. They, it goes with saying, should not play any part in repressive measures against people who are not pleasing to H. Amin in the event that detachments and sub-units to which our advisors are attached are involved in these actions.

A. Gromyko

09.15.1979