

December 10, 1979

Summary of a meeting on Afghanistan

Citation:

"Summary of a meeting on Afghanistan", December 10, 1979, Wilson Center Digital Archive, A. A. Lyakhovskiy's "Plamya Afgana" ("Flame of the Afghanistan veteran"), Iskon, Moscow, 1999; Translated for CWIHP by Gary Goldberg.
<https://wilson-center-digital-archive.dvincitest.com/document/111780>

Summary:

A meeting between CC CPSU officials demonstrates the disagreement over Soviet involvement in Afghanistan.

Original Language:

Russian

Contents:

Translation - English

[p. 121, 10 December 1979; Ogarkov, as later quoted by Varennikov to the author:]

"We will reestablish the entire eastern Islamic system [islamizm] against us", said Ogarkov, "and we will lose politically in the entire world". [Translator's note: Perhaps here Ogarkov has the Basmachi resistance in the Central Asian republics during the Civil War in mind]. Andropov cuts him off: "Stick to military affairs! We, the Party, and Leonid Il'ich will handle policy!" Ogarkov tried to object: "I am Chief of the General Staff", but again Andropov stopped him: "No more". The KGB Chairman was supported by K. U. Chernenko, M. A. Suslov, D. F. Ustinov, and A. P. Kirilenko. Then L. I. Brezhnev has his word: "Yuriy Vladimirovich should be supported".