

February 2, 1953

**Memorandum of Conversation, Soviet Ambassador
to China, A.S. Paniushkin, with the Bulgarian
Ambassador, Ia.K. Petkov, 5 January 1953**

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Summary:

The Bulgarian Ambassador to China Petkov describes his time as a prisoner of war in Greece during WWII as well as the rapid growth of the Bulgarian economy since 1940.

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From the diary of
A.S. PANIUSHKIN

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MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

Soviet Ambassador to the PRC, A.S. Paniushkin, with the Ambassador of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, Ia.K. Petkov, 5 January 1953

Today there was a visit with the Ambassador of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, Ia.K. Petkov. The conversation for the most part went according to protocol, in the course of which Petkov told about how he was in prison in during the second world war, from which he was sent to a concentration camp in Greece. At the end of the war he managed to escape from the camp together with his other comrades—at the time important government workers of Bulgaria.

Characterizing the rapid growth of the economy of Bulgaria and noting the great help of the Soviet Union, Petkov explained how industry in Bulgaria had increased some five times since 1940, and the standard of living of the population increased some three times.

SOVIET AMBASSADOR IN CHINA □PANIUSHKIN

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