

preventing war today and that security can and must be built not by way of increasing arms but by reducing their numbers on a compromise basis.⁷³

Lobov went on to say the principle of reasonable sufficiency had started to be realized because of the announcement.

Others also made reference to the idea of compromise. For example, Major General Lebedev stated that the U.N. speech indicated "...the first glimmers are to be seen in the world attesting that security can be ensured by reducing arms on a compromise basis."⁷⁴ However, it would appear that this idea referred not only to the Soviet Union, but also implied that the West must also be willing to engage in such "compromises". Although the announced reductions were in no way conditional on corresponding cuts from the West, not long after the announcement there were consistent and frequent calls for reciprocity. One of the clearest statements was made by the military writer Chernyshev in a TASS broadcast in English one day after Gorbachev's speech. He stated that:

The principle of reasonable defence sufficiency must be implemented along two lines: by unilateral measures of a state in the area of military development and by joint efforts of states belonging to different military-political groups.⁷⁵

Yazov stated that this should not only include flexibility in negotiations, but actual unilateral measures on the part of NATO.⁷⁶

⁷³ Interview with Army General V.N. Lobov. N. Sautin, "And Only the Truth Will Do", *Izvestiya*, 9 May 1989 (morning ed.) in *FBIS-SU*, 11 May 1989, p. 86.

⁷⁴ Yu. Lebedev, "Confidence Will Strengthen Security. USSR Armed Forces General Staff Representative Comments on New Soviet Peace Proposals", *Sovetskaya Rossiya*, 23 December 1988 (2nd ed.), p. 5 in *FBIS-SU*, 27 December 1988, p. 2.

⁷⁵ Comments of V. Chernyshev in: *TASS*, in English, 8 December 1988 in *FBIS-SU*, 9 December 1988, p. 2.

⁷⁶ "In the Interests of Universal Security and Peace", *Izvestiya*, 28 February 1989 (morning ed.), p. 3 in *FBIS-SU*, 28 February 1989, p. 2.