

broke off the talks.

On 8 January 1985, US Secretary of State George Shultz and Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko signed a joint communiqué outlining the nature and objectives of new negotiations "concerning space and nuclear arms, both strategic and intermediate-range, with all the questions considered and resolved in their interrelationship." These negotiations, known as the Nuclear and Space Arms Talks (NST), began on 27 March 1985.

Various proposals on INF were put forth by both sides in the opening months of the negotiations. On 15 January 1986, General Secretary Gorbachev proposed to eliminate all nuclear weapons in three stages by the year 2000. In the first stage, the US and the USSR would eliminate all US and Soviet INF in the European zone. In early February the Soviets stated that an INF agreement was possible without prior limitations on the US Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI). The United States, on 24 February 1986, proposed a time-table of reductions to eliminate all US and Soviet INF deployments worldwide.

On 11-12 October 1986, President Reagan and General Secretary Gorbachev met for their second summit meeting at Reykjavik, Iceland. The leaders agreed, as a package separate from strategic forces, to eliminate all LRINF missiles in Europe and retain 100 LRINF warheads elsewhere. SRINF missile levels in Europe were to be frozen and dealt with in future negotiations. By the close of the summit, however, General Secretary Gorbachev had re-linked INF to an agreement on a larger package including strategic and space arms.

On 28 February 1987, General Secretary Gorbachev announced that the Soviet Union would again separate the INF issue from the larger package. The Soviets also proposed a separate negotiation for SRINF and the