

For this reason I welcome the prospect of a summit meeting between President Reagan and President Brezhnev. I am encouraged by President Reagan's announcement a week ago that the United States proposes negotiations with the Soviet Union at the end of June on the reduction of strategic weapons. I welcome this START.

I am certain that these steps will reassure your friends and begin to restore cohesion to our Alliance.

Let us accept the challenge to take bold initiatives. Let us pledge that we will not be the ones to start a war. Let us again seek agreement to suffocate horrifying new weapons in the laboratory. Let us develop new approaches to arms control.

Americans, have confidence in your strength. You are strong in yourselves, and strong in your friends. Strength dares! Let there be a new beginning in the relationship between East and West.