

diplomacy, still remains. This has heightened the premium placed on group cohesion. Diplomatic positions must still be framed, perhaps more often than not, with a vigilant tactical eye on the tendency of adversarial blocs to exploit openings within group ranks.

As this study will show, it is a moot point whether defection from group ranks in the form of high-profile initiatives does much to engender more serious bilateral or multilateral arms control work. Group cohesion, as a constraint upon the more effective conduct of multilateral arms control diplomacy, is not without its paradox. There is something to be said for group cohesion as a means of softening the indifference of the superpowers toward the multilateral exercise. Indeed, one of the principal aims at Geneva of Western non-nuclear states has been to convince the United States that it should assume a greater responsibility for constructive leadership both within the Western group and within the CD at large. This effort has not been without success.

Perhaps more so now than at any time in the history of the Geneva forum, superpower involvement and leadership in multilateral arms control is crucial. Equally critical is the full and effective involvement of technologically advanced non-nuclear states. Scientific and technological innovations, and the diffusion of military and economic power in recent years, have meant, as Edward Luck has put it, "that few security problems can be handled successfully by the superpowers alone."<sup>6</sup> Nor can these be handled effectively by the CD in the absence of superpower leadership. Among these security problems must be included the sinister threat of the proliferation of nuclear and chemical weapons and their means of delivery. Concern over chemical weapons has intensified only in very recent years, largely as a consequence of their use in South-East Asia and in the Middle East, and as a consequence of developments in the field of "dual-purpose" civilian technologies with potential military applications. The development of such technologies encompasses the satellite and ballistic missile fields as well as those of the industrial and commercial use of chemicals. Because of the military side to these

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<sup>6</sup> Edward C. Luck, "A Future for Multilateral Arms Control," in Luck, ed., *Arms Control, The Multilateral Alternative*, *op. cit.* p. 218.