

It is clear that a preparatory meeting will be needed involving not just the 23 nations represented here, but all 35 countries of the CSCE. But we need to discuss here what we believe should be the purpose of the summit itself beyond signing a CFE agreement.

Is it to create the political setting for the 1992 follow-up meeting? Or will it also have a broader agenda, setting in motion a process of activities ranging

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through economic, social, environmental and humanitarian cooperation, as well as security affairs?

Today we are all politicians, in the best sense of that word. We are responsible to our publics for our actions. We must, therefore, be sensitive to those responsibilities on the part of others. We must be mindful, constantly, of the need to keep our efforts coordinated so that change is not purchased at the price of stability.

Under normal circumstances this would be a recipe for slowness, but we cannot afford delay. We must be present, at the political level, during all phases of this process, to ensure success that is quick and sure.

As we pursue our discussions today in closed session, I am confident that we will continue to apply the same openness to each other and to new ideas as is embodied in the concept of Open Skies itself. ■

***Students: see page
18 for Focus***

***Do arms control and
disarmament prevent war?***

Open Skies Communiqué

The following is the Communiqué on Open Skies issued on February 13, 1990 by the 16 NATO and seven WTO foreign ministers present at the Open Skies Conference.

At the invitation of the Government of Canada, the Foreign Ministers and senior representatives of the Governments of Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, France, the German Democratic Republic, the Federal Republic of Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Spain, Turkey, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom and the United States of America met in Ottawa February 12-14, 1990 to begin negotiation of "Open Skies." Also present at the Ministerial Session were observers of other CSCE states.¹

The Ministers welcomed the accelerating trend toward openness and the reduction of international tensions. In this context, they noted that although an "Open Skies" regime is neither an arms control nor a verification measure *per se*, its successful implementation would encourage reciprocal openness on the part of participating states. It would strengthen confidence among them, reduce the risk of conflict, and enhance the predictability of military activities of the participating states. Finally, it would contribute to the process of arms reduction and limitation along with verification measures under arms limitation and reduction agreements and existing observation capabilities. The Ministers noted further that the establishment of an "Open Skies" regime may promote greater openness in the future in other spheres.

Believing that an effective "Open Skies" regime would serve to consolidate improved relations among their countries, the Ministers therefore agreed on the following:

- the "Open Skies" regime will be implemented on a reciprocal and equitable basis which will protect the interests of each participating state, and in accordance with which the participating states will be open to aerial observation;
- the regime will ensure the maximum possible openness and minimum restrictions for observation flights;
- each participating state will have the right to conduct, and the obligation to receive, observation flights on the basis of annual quotas which will be determined in negotiations so as to provide for equitable coverage;
- the agreement will have provisions concerning the right to conduct observation flights using unarmed aircraft and equipment capable in all circumstances of fulfilling the goals of the regime;
- the participating states will favourably consider the possible participation in the regime of other countries, primarily the European countries.

The Ministers expressed their gratitude to the Government of Canada for organizing this Conference and welcomed the invitation of the Government of Hungary to a second part of the Conference to conclude the negotiation in Budapest this spring.

1. Those present as observers were Austria, Cyprus, Finland, Ireland, Monaco, Sweden, Switzerland and Yugoslavia.

Turkey reserves her position on the status and representation of Cyprus.