measures for strictly limiting the number of air and sea-launched cruise missiles and for restricting the deployment of cruise missile platforms be agreed at Geneva.

b) Chemical Weapons

The second arms control priority for the NATO allies is the abolition of chemical weapons. In 1984, when the United States presented a draft treaty on chemical weapons with extraordinarily demanding verification provisions (mandatory on-site inspection, anytime, anywhere), there appeared little chance that the Soviets would respond in any way adequate to meet US concerns. Since then, the Soviets have shifted position and a treaty to ban the production and stockpiling of chemical weapons may be within the grasp of the Conference on Disarmament, during its 1988 session. The United States has resumed production of chemical weapons and other countries may be acquiring a capacity to produce them, so the matter is urgent. A new Canadian study on the organization of a chemical weapons verification regime will be of help to this negotiating process.

c) Comprehensive Test Ban

A comprehensive ban on all nuclear weapon tests must now be considered a distant prospect. In this case the search for adequate verification is not the central problem. Although questions remain about the difficulties of verifying a comprehensive test ban, there is little doubt about the feasibility of banning all but the smallest nuclear tests and Soviet/American talks on the subject are continuing. But the Reagan Administration has made it clear that it sees nuclear testing as essential to the maintenance of deterrence and that testing will be required as long as nuclear weapons are deployed.