

weapons and redundancy as regards verification capabilities. This formula is prompted not least by the trends and prospects of the current European situation.

Before our eyes a new Europe is emerging, which no longer consists of three or four groups of states but, rather, is a space with a vastly different, more complex political configuration. To our regret, few would vouch today that this new configuration would not create new problems, cause new complications in various places, or open old wounds or scars.

In this situation, the Open Skies regime could become an essential and effective way of maintaining and building confidence and removing the suspicions and apprehensions that might arise.

As you probably know, as soon as the President of the United States, Mr. George Bush, suggested the idea of Open Skies, we immediately called for more than that, that is, for extending the area of international glasnost and openness.

Of course, in monitoring the earth from above, we can get some idea of the movements of navy ships and submarines. But can this be sufficient today when nuclear weapons, long-range cruise missiles, aircraft and combat helicopters are moving from land to the seas and oceans?

And yet, again and again, at various negotiations, the issue of naval arms and confidence-building measures affecting the activities of states on the seas and oceans is being left out of consideration and without resolution.

And here I would agree with Mr. Baker that the problem relating to aviation is a very serious problem. It is very complex, but the naval issue is of equal importance, in fact.

No serious argument is cited to justify this. This, in fact, comes as a remnant of the Cold War, and I think that, in fact, we can remain quite confident knowing that an area which concentrates increasing numbers of the most sophisticated arms remains unaffected by glasnost, knowing that those arms are extremely mobile and intended, above all, for use in offensive actions.

Let us face the truth. Today the easiest way to launch a surprise attack, a military invasion, or an aggression, is from the seas. Of course, it is easier to look for things where there is light rather than total darkness. And instead of putting more searchlights where there is already a bright illumination, strong rays of light should focus on the darkest corners of military activity.

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