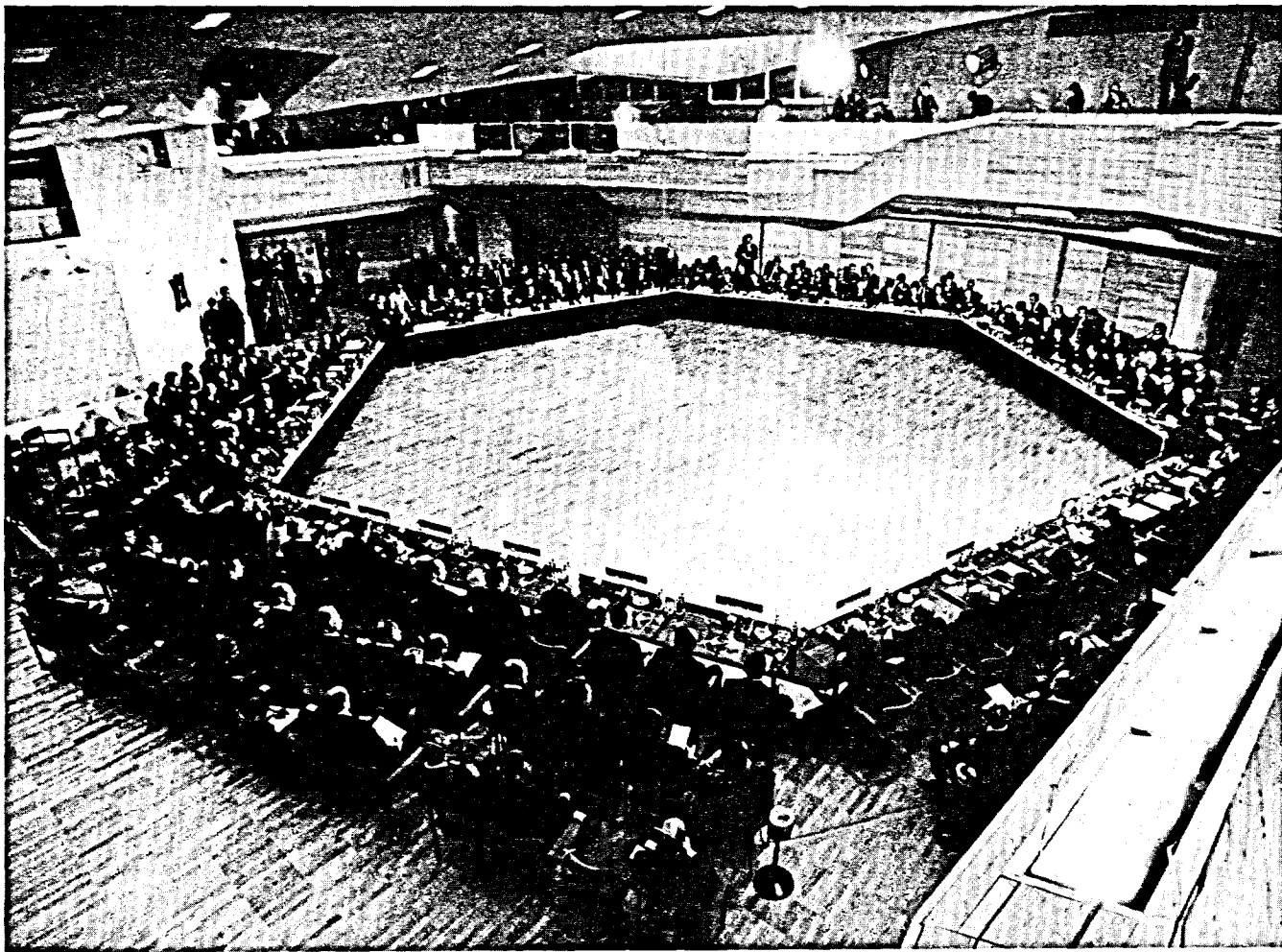


relations. More governments, including in particular Japan, have recognized Peking and explored opportunities for increased contacts. Tensions in Asia have relaxed appreciably. In Europe the confrontations of a generation are subsiding.

### Europe

Britain's historic decision (along with those of Ireland and Denmark) to bind her future to that of the European Community may signal a turning-point in

European history. At the least there is a new sense of purpose and achievement in Western Europe, along with a growing strength. These developments have gone in concert with vigorous and successful efforts by the Federal Republic of Germany to improve its bilateral relations with the USSR and the countries of East Europe, and with other initiatives, both bilateral and multilateral, to reduce tensions, enhance security and expand cooperation in spite of differences of political and economic systems. The high points of Chancellor



*Preliminary talks for the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe opened at Helsinki on November 22, with representatives of 34 nations in attendance. For the first time in 150 years, all the European countries except Albania, which declined, were invited to participate in a political conference. The United States and Canada are also among the negotiating states.*

Lehtikuva Oy Photo