

The first week of discussion consisted of opening presentations by the military commanders. From 22 to 26 January, the delegates discussed the military posture of their various armed forces, including organization, command, structures, deployment, support systems personnel, armament, equipment, state of readiness and procurement plans. This was followed by a session on military activities and training and concluded with a session devoted to budgets and planning.

Of particular interest to the West was the Soviet elaboration of how they had reoriented their military posture to a defensive mode. General Moiseyev emphasized in his opening address that Moscow had adopted "a new defensive military doctrine" as a result of new political thinking.⁵ He provided details of unilateral troop and arms reductions in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe to support this claim. Though the Americans welcomed the Soviet troop withdrawals they reacted cautiously given the fact that, according to intelligence reports, Soviet stockpiling of ammunition and fuel in Eastern Europe remained at pre-1989 levels.⁶

In March 1990, it was reported that diplomats in Vienna had reached a virtual consensus on the need to complete work on a CSBM treaty in time for signing at the CSCE summit to be held in late 1990.⁷ Consequently, the fifth round ended on 23 February with a host of new initiatives. The delegations set up four treaty-drafting groups: one on information exchange and verification; one on communications, consultations, and contacts; one on observation and notification of exercises; and one on the annual calendar and constraints. A paper on options for a new communications system was introduced, co-sponsored by states from all three groups of CSCE participants. The NNAs submitted recommendations for conducting random evaluations to verify data furnished during the envisioned annual CSBM data exchanges. Finally, NATO formally submitted two proposals resulting from discussion at the military doctrine seminar. Under the first of these, each CSCE state would exchange annually with all others detailed data on its military budget for the forthcoming fiscal year. The other states could then submit questions about the data and expect answers. The second proposal was for states to hold annual five-day review meetings to discuss present and future implementation of CSBMs, as well as other military data exchanges.⁸

On 18 May 1990, Norway tabled on behalf of NATO a series of new CSBM proposals, including measures for: reducing the risk of, and reporting, hazardous incidents, including hazards to CDE observers and inspectors; a CSCE mechanism for the discussion of unusual military activities; visits to combat air bases to observe routine activities; and information exchange on

⁵ Alan Riding, "Military Chiefs of East and West Meet to Discuss Europe's Security." *New York Times*, 17 January 1990, p. A8.

⁶ Michael R. Gordon, "Soviets Still Stocking Ammunition, US Says." *New York Times*, 11 January 1990, p. A15.

⁷ "CSBM Talks 'Back on the Front Page'." *Defense and Disarmament Alternatives*, vol. 3 no. 3 (March 1990), p. 7.

⁸ *Ibid.*