

medium- and short-range missiles. The Soviets reacted guardedly, expressing reservations about the "preconditions" that the West Germans had set for scrapping the missiles. Later TASS issued a more detailed report which described Chancellor Kohl's conditions without mentioning whether they were acceptable to the Soviet Union.

The next major event in the rapidly moving INF negotiations is the widely anticipated meeting between Foreign Minister Shevardnadze and Secretary of State Shultz in Washington on 15 to 17 September. As this issue of *Peace&Security* goes to press, there is considerable speculation that the two foreign ministers will agree on the date for a late Autumn summit meeting between Mr. Reagan and Mr. Gorbachev – a summit where, it is presumed, a treaty on short- and medium-range missiles would be signed.

Comprehensive Test Ban

■ Early in June 1987, US administration officials revealed that the chief CTB negotiator for the Soviet Union, Andronik Petrosyants, had agreed in bilateral talks on the issue, that the US could use their on-site cable method (CORRTEX) to measure Soviet nuclear tests. This would be part of a larger agreement on monitoring which would include both sides conducting a test on each others territory. Using CORRTEX during Soviet tests has been a consistent US demand. However, the Soviets stated that they would only allow the US to use CORRTEX if they agreed to begin talks on limiting the size and number of tests. The US position is that they will only begin such talks after additional monitoring has been agreed and the Peaceful Nuclear Explosions Treaty and Threshold Test Ban have been ratified by the US Senate. Talks between the Soviet Union and the US on the question of exchanging nuclear tests continued in mid-July.

On 9 June at the Conference on Disarmament in Geneva, the socialist countries submitted a draft CTB treaty entitled "Basic

Provisions of a Treaty on the General and Complete Prohibition of Nuclear Weapon Tests." The draft treaty called for the creation of an institute of international inspectors along with an international seismic network and mandatory on-site inspection. The Soviet deputy minister of Foreign Affairs stated that although the treaty was for a comprehensive test ban they were willing to take US interests into account and negotiate a one-kiloton threshold and a limited number of tests.

Early Warning

Autumn	ABM Treaty Review Conference, Geneva
December	NATO meeting, Brussels

The agreement between the Soviet Academy of Sciences and the private Washington-based Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) on seismic monitoring has been renewed for another fourteen months. The agreement was originally signed in the summer of 1986 and allowed US scientists to set up seismic monitoring stations near the Soviet test site and Soviet scientists to do the same in the US. When the Soviet testing moratorium ended last February the US scientists were told that the seismic monitors would have to be turned off during Soviet tests. The new agreement will allow the scientists to monitor Soviet tests but the seismic stations will have to be moved to locations 600 miles away from the test site (approximately five times farther than their previous location).

On 1 September the *Associated Press* reported that an official of the Soviet Defence Ministry speaking in Washington invited the US to test a nuclear device on Soviet territory. The Soviets would expect in return to be permitted to explode their own weapon at the American test site. Exchange tests are intended to calibrate each side's test monitoring equipment and aid in the verification of a possible test ban treaty. The AP report said that

an official US response to the offer would wait until the Soviet proposal is presented at negotiations in Geneva.

Chemical Weapons

■ In a speech to the Conference on Disarmament on 6 August Soviet Foreign Minister Shevardnadze announced that the Soviet Union was willing to accept the "principle of mandatory challenge inspections without right of refusal." Mr. Shevardnadze also stated that the Soviet Union would invite nations

to inspect a secret Soviet chemical weapons facility at Shikhany. The Shikhany plant is considered to be the largest chemical weapons plant in the world. Western countries at the CD welcomed the invitation as a gesture of goodwill by the Soviets and stated that agreement to mandatory inspections was an important step forward. Negotiators continue to say that a chemical weapons treaty is possible in 1988.

Conventional Arms Reductions

■ Discussions between NATO and the Warsaw Pact on a new mandate for negotiations on conventional arms and forces began in February 1987. On 10 July NATO submitted a proposal for a new forum for negotiating conventional arms reduction to the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe (CSCE). Previously, NATO countries had been unable to agree on a proposal. The French wanted all thirty-five nations of the CSCE, including neutral and non-aligned nations, to be included in the talks. The US had disagreed, saying that only members of the NATO and Warsaw Pact alliances should be involved.

A compromise was reached and NATO has proposed a two-tier format. The proposal suggests negotiations between all thirty-five nations on questions of verification, the exchange of military information and the observation of military exercises. Negotiations

on actual reductions of conventional arms and troops would take place between the two alliances. The ongoing discussions between the two alliances on the question of a new forum recessed at the end of July and will resume again in September.

Disarmament and Development Conference

■ Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev proposed that the fifteen members of the United Nations Security Council hold a summit meeting to discuss how money saved through disarmament could be spent on economic development. He further proposed that the UN create an international fund to hold savings which could be distributed to developing countries. The suggestion came on 25 August in the form of a message read by Vladimir Petrovsky, a Soviet deputy minister, to the United Nations International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development. The US State Department rejected the Soviet proposal on the basis that disarmament and Third World development are not related issues. The US did not attend the conference.

Canadian External Affairs Minister, Joe Clark addressed the opening session of the International Conference. While he endorsed the goals of arms reductions and increased aid to developing countries he was also skeptical about the usefulness of the proposed international development fund. Mr. Clark told a press conference (*Canadian Press*, 25 August) before his address to the UN that the new fund "would not mean new funds for development... it would mean new bureaucrats for development." Mr. Clark told the Conference, "We must understand why governments spend on arms, and understand also that there is simply no evidence, no reason to believe, that governments are likely to disarm at the expense of what they consider their security in order to divert funds to development." □

- JANE BOULDEN