

(Mr. Mellor, United Kingdom)

Turning to the Strategic Defence Initiative, I confirm our welcome that the Soviet Union has dropped its earlier linkage between Long Range Intermediate Nuclear Forces. The United Kingdom continues to see the United States SDI programme as prudent. Mrs. Thatcher agreed with President Reagan at Camp David in November 1986 that there was a need to press ahead with the SDI research programme, which is permitted by the Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty. But it is just that, a research programme. And it matches the Soviet Union's activities in this field over many years.