

(Mr. Issraelyan, USSR)

At the Geneva Conference, this tactic is being used in the talks on the prohibition of chemical weapons. Even prior to the submission of the United States draft convention on the prohibition of chemical weapons, Washington officials were saying that the text would, I quote, be totally unacceptable to the Soviet Union and, as you know, they were not far from the truth. Their only error was that the draft was to prove unacceptable not only for the Soviet Union, but also for a significant number of States, as the summer session of the Conference has shown. What is particularly disturbing is that various United States political figures keep repeating that, should its draft not be adopted, the United States will undertake the mass production of binary chemical weapons. What can be said about such declarations? Just one thing: if the talks on the prohibition of chemical weapons are also wrecked, if they are wrecked like many other talks, everybody will be well aware who is responsible. Unacceptability for the other participants in the talks and a lack of constructiveness have been the distinguishing features of all the disarmament "initiatives" by Washington of which Ambassador Fields reminded us yesterday. Is it then any wonder that the results of those initiatives are the breakdown of negotiations or deadlock? It would really be hard to expect anything else from proposals that increase the differences rather than bring positions closer together. The talks on the banning of chemical weapons are unnecessary proof of that fact. The peaceful-sounding words that are heard from time to time from the other side of the ocean -- alternating it is true, with various "jokes" -- do nothing to change the situation. As Konstantin Chernenko, General Secretary of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and Chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, has pointed out, and I quote: "In politics we believe only in deeds, not in words. Arms reduction means actual, mutual reduction. The elimination of nuclear weapons means actual elimination on both sides. If the United States and NATO accept that, we shall not be found wanting".