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# The Disarmament Bulletin

A review of Canada's arms control and disarmament activities

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## Success in Vienna: CFE Treaty Signed



The Canadian delegation to the CFE negotiation with the completed Treaty. Standing, from left to right: Mr. Ian Mundell, Mr. Andrew Rasiulis, Mr. André Ouellette, Col. William Megill, Ms. Yolande Thibault and Mr. John Bryson. Seated: Ambassador David Peel.

On November 19, 1990 in Paris, the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe (CFE) was signed by government leaders representing each member of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and the parties to the Warsaw Treaty. This concluded the first phase of an arms reduction process designed to enhance security and stability in Europe. Although a significant accom-

plishment in itself, the signature of the Treaty marks just the end of the beginning and sets the stage for the negotiation of even further conventional arms control measures in Europe.

The dramatic changes that swept Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union in 1989-1990 tended to overshadow the CFE negotiation. The bilaterally-negotiated withdrawals of Soviet forces from Hungary and Czechoslovakia, and the rapid move towards a

**Treaty marks end of the beginning.**

united Germany in NATO, may have left some with the impression that CFE had been overtaken by events. Such a view was valid, however, only if one assumed that the unilateral removal of the potential threat to Western Europe posed by Soviet-led Warsaw Treaty forces provided a sufficient guarantee of long-term stability and security.

NATO's leaders had earlier concluded that the only stable alternative to military stand-off was a negotiated, cooperative and verifiable security arrangement in which members of the WTO — particularly the USSR — were actively and intimately involved. The form that

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