C124(T86)

Proposal Abstract C124(T86)

1. Arms Control Problem:

(a) Conventional weapons - ground forces

- aircraft

(b) Regional arms control - Europe

2. Verification Type:

- (a) On-site inspection selective
- (b) Remote sensors aerial
- (c) Short-range sensors monitoring devices
- (d) Complaints procedures consultation and cooperation

3. Source:

Conference on Confidence- and Security-Building Measures and Disarmament in Europe. Document of the Stockholm Conference. 19 September 1986.

4. Summary

The Conference on Confidence- and Security-Building Measures and Disarmament in Europe (The "Stockholm Conference") was the creation of the 35-state Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE). Participants include all the European states (except Albania) plus Canada and the United States. The first undertaking of the CSCE was the Helsinki Final Act (1975) which inter alia established a modest set of confidence-building measures without providing any means of verification. The Stockholm Conference which opened in January 1985 specifically set out to negotiate and adopt a set of mutually complementary confidence- and security-building measures (CSBM's) designed to reduce the risk of military confrontation in Europe. These CSBMs were to be politically binding, militarily significant and verifiable.

The specific CSBMs adopted by the Stockholm Conference relate to the prior notification of certain military activities (land force exercises, amphibious or airborne exercises, and transfers of land forces from outside the zone of application of the document) when above specified thresholds. Annual calendars are also to be exchanged listing proposed notifiable military activities for the upcoming year. In addition, the Stockholm Document specifies that some categories of large-scale notifiable military activities will not take place unless they are notified according to the terms of the agreement.

Two sets of provisions in the Stockholm Document relate to the verification of these measures. The first, and least directly relevant to verification, are the provisions concerning the invitation of observers to military activities. The main aim of such observation appears to be to promote contacts and build confidence; while the