

Moscow Summit Furthers Arms Control and Disarmament

President Reagan and General Secretary Gorbachev met May 29-June 2, 1988 in Moscow to discuss a wide range of issues, including arms control, human rights and humanitarian concerns, regional issues and bilateral affairs. Canada believes that the breadth of the discussions is an excellent indication of the increasing depth of the US/Soviet relationship and, in particular, welcomes the progress made in arms control. The following are excerpts of the text of the USA/USSR Joint Statement at the conclusion of the Summit.

Arms Control

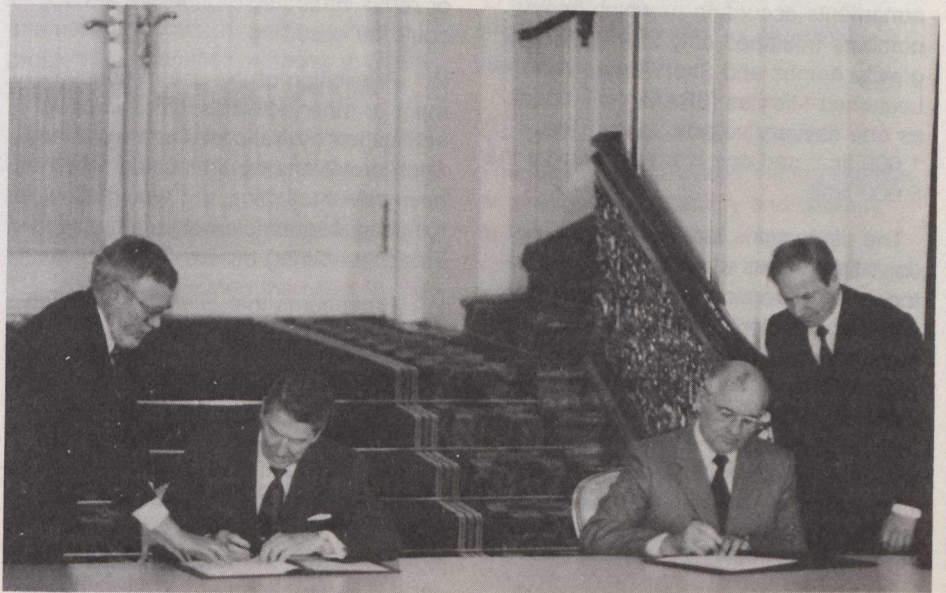
"The President and the General Secretary, having expressed the commitment of their two countries to build on progress to date in arms control, determined objectives and next steps on a wide range of issues in this area. These will guide the efforts of the two governments in the months ahead as they work with each other and with other states toward equitable, verifiable agreements that strengthen international stability and security.

INF

The President and the General Secretary signed the protocol on the exchange of instruments of ratification of the Treaty between the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics on the Elimination of Their Intermediate-Range and Shorter-Range Missiles. The two leaders welcomed the entry into force of this historic agreement, which for the first time will eliminate an entire class of US and Soviet nuclear arms, and which sets new standards for arms control. The leaders are determined to achieve the full implementation of all the provisions and understandings of the Treaty, viewing joint and successful work in this respect as an important precedent for future arms control efforts.

Nuclear and Space Talks

The two leaders noted that a Joint Draft Text of a Treaty on Reduction and



US President Ronald Reagan (left) and Soviet General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev place their signatures on the instruments of ratification of the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF) agreement at the Kremlin in Moscow. The Treaty was formally agreed to during the Washington Summit in December 1987.

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Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms has been elaborated. Through this process, the sides have been able to record in the Joint Draft Text extensive and significant areas of agreement and also to detail positions on remaining areas of disagreement. While important additional work is required before this Treaty is ready for signature, many key provisions are recorded in the Joint Draft Text and are considered to be agreed, subject to the completion and ratification of the Treaty.

Taking into account a Treaty on Strategic Offensive Arms, the sides have continued negotiations to achieve a separate agreement concerning the Anti-Ballistic Missile (ABM) Treaty building on the language of the Washington Summit Joint Statement dated December 10, 1987. Progress was noted in preparing the Joint Draft Text of an associated Protocol. In connection with their obligations under the Protocol, the sides have agreed in particular to use the Nuclear Risk Reduction Centers for transmission of relevant information. The leaders directed their negotiators to prepare the Joint Draft Text of a separate agreement and to continue work on its associated Protocol.

The Joint Draft Treaty on Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms reflects the earlier understanding on establishing ceilings of no more than 1,600 strategic offensive delivery systems and 6,000 warheads as well as agreement on subceilings of 4,900 on the aggregate of Intercontinental Ballistic Missile (ICBM) and Submarine-Launched Ballistic Missile (SLBM) warheads and 1,540 warheads on 154 heavy missiles.

The draft Treaty also records the sides' agreement that, as a result of the reductions, the aggregate throw-weight of the Soviet Union's ICBMs and SLBMs will be reduced to a level, approximately 50 percent below the existing level and this level will not be exceeded.

During the negotiations, the two sides have also achieved understanding that in future work on the Treaty they will act on the understanding that on deployed ICBMs and SLBMs of existing types the counting rule will include the number of warheads referred to in the Joint Statement of December 10, 1987, and the number of warheads which will be attributed to each new type of ballistic missile will be subject to negotiation.