

future common path for the Germans is a sound offer. It places emphasis on a sensible accommodation of interest and the maintenance of a peace sustaining balance of forces, just as it relies on conferring on the still existing alliances a primarily political character until they are disbanded.

Even though there are, as yet, no final concepts on the future role of the Germans, nobody, undoubtedly, would take exception, for example, if, first of all, both German states consistently patterned their armed forces on purely defensive lines, which, as was suggested recently by Mr. Genscher, would be promoted by a joint renunciation for the production and possession of nuclear chemical and biological weapons and, perhaps, of the prohibition of stockpiling them on German soil.

Second, there could be virtually no exception if they continued to reduce their military arsenal as a result of negotiations and through unilateral moves.

Third, if foreign troops were withdrawn in stages from their respective territories.

Fourth, if both states, in their alliances made efforts to achieve further tangible cuts in their military capabilities.

And, fifth, if both states, mindful of the over-riding security interests of all peoples, detached themselves gradually from their alliance obligations and left the military structures of the Warsaw Pact and of NATO, because these ought to assume more and more of a political character anyway.

It would be most benefiting for the Germans to act as a kind of bridge between the two blocs. To stake out their role could be a task for the summit meeting envisaged by the CSCE states. Preparations for this meeting should be speeded up so that such CSCE framework could be created which could guarantee democracy and stability in the view of the growing weight which will potentially result in a unified German state.

Allow me, ladies and gentleman, in view of the continuing destabilization in my country which, of course, could not after all choose its politically and military sensitive location, and in the face of mounting nationalistic and even neo fascist manifestations, I wish to reaffirm that we intend to do everything in our power, everything that is reasonable, balanced and honourable, to prevent that instability spread to the European and disarmament processes.

Democratic renewal must, and can only, come from within ourselves. It cannot just be instilled in us from somewhere else.

In this period which abounds as much with opportunities as it is fraught with risks, the Government of the German Democratic