

What is missing is a strategy of confidence-building measures of a political nature:

- Steps that reduce tensions caused by uncertainty about objectives, or caused by fear of the consequences of failure;
- Steps that mitigate hostility and promote a modicum of mutual respect;
- Steps that build an authentic confidence in man's ability to survive on this planet.

In short, we must take positive political steps in order to reverse the dangerously downward trend-line in East-West relations.

I shall be exploring such steps with our allies, with other leaders, and with groups such as yours. We must work in a balanced and rational fashion, with a degree of trust, a degree of belief in the good sense of mankind, and with a strong recognition that the task is urgent. The negotiations on theatre nuclear forces in Europe, and on strategic forces, are taking place between the superpowers. Canada is not at the table, and we have no wish to insert ourselves into this vital and delicate process. It is my hope, however, that we might help to influence the atmosphere in which these negotiations are being conducted, and thereby enhance the prospects of early agreement. We need to be realistic about the hard factors in play. We must appreciate the primordial drive for security and for sovereignty which is never very far below the surface of the arms control debate.

Let us begin the search for what Franklyn Griffiths has termed a strategic Keynesianism – counter-cyclical measures which work to moderate the terrible lurch from hope to crisis. We shall have to go against the flow.

I intend to speak further, in other speeches in the weeks ahead, about these issues of confidence, stability, arms control and political will, which dominate not only our times, but our lives as well. I have this week begun a process of close discussion with President Reagan. My consultations with other leaders have already commenced. I plan to take to them in person my own recommendations for a strategy of political confidence-building.

We will want to look at several elements:

- ways of designing a consistent structure of political and economic confidence with which to stabilize East-West relations;
- ways to draw the superpowers away from their concentration on military strength, toward regular and productive dialogue, toward a sense of responsibility commensurate with their power;
- ways to persuade all five nuclear-weapons states to engage in negotiations aimed at establishing global limits on their strategic nuclear arsenals;