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The Disarmament Bulletin

A review of national and international disarmament and arms control activities

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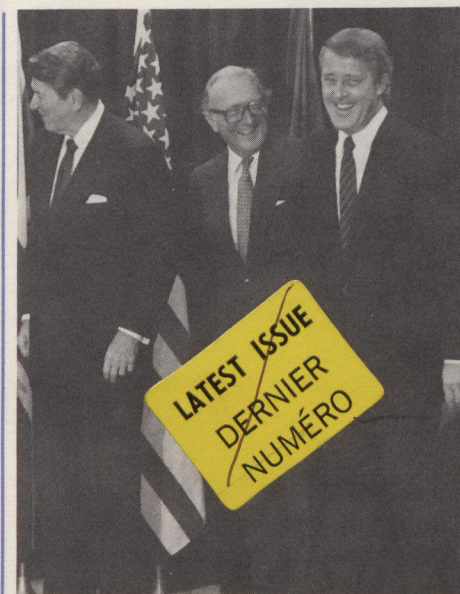
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PM at NATO Meeting on Geneva Summit

After the post-Summit meeting of NATO leaders in Brussels on November 21, Prime Minister Brian Mulroney made the following statements to the press.

"The [US] president spoke in great detail and with great candour about his meetings in Geneva and I am heartened by the productive personal relationships that the president seems to have established with General Secretary Gorbachev, and their agreement as well to meet on a regular basis in the future. The Geneva meeting has established, I think, some simple but powerful truths that success in summity at this level is predicated upon a number of things, including the strengths and resolve of the United States and its president and the unity and determination of our Alliance, NATO. The new Soviet leadership, I think, understands and respects these realities and because of this a constructive dialogue was initiated in Geneva. The Summit was clearly well prepared and I can tell you that members of the Alliance were well consulted throughout and prior thereto. There are many chapters still to be written, but I think an important prologue was begun at Geneva. As I have indicated, Canada is pleased with the productive, personal relationship established and most of all the expressed determination of the two leaders to meet on a regular basis and deal with the real issues of arms limitation in a nuclear age to which the Government of Canada and all Canadians are deeply committed....

I see a substantial improvement in the situation from where we were. First of all, for six years there have been no meetings. Now we have a two-and-a-half



Prime Minister Brian Mulroney (right) with United States President Ronald Reagan (left) and Lord Carrington, NATO Secretary-General, at Brussels meeting on November 21. PMO

day meeting taking place, breaking free from the agenda, with spontaneous unrehearsed, apparently very cordial and productive personal relations developing. I see that first of all. I see an abundance of important, but not paramount, in terms of arms control, arms limitation agreements undertaken.... I see as well a personal undertaking by Mr. Gorbachev to go to Washington next year for further discussions and President Reagan in 1987 to spend an extended period of time in Moscow. I mean, that to me represents a substantially changed climate and it's within an improved climate that substantial and real progress is possible. So I'm not euphoric. I don't think anyone is. But I think realism suggests that we ought to be happy with the progress that we have known."

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