

mean that the Middle East and other areas are not matters of deep concern, or that action is not urgently required to build adequate machinery for strengthening resistance to aggression in this and other vital areas. It does, however, mean that these essential and related tasks should not distract our attention from the area which we are specifically committed to defend, or the longer-term aims which our alliance must ultimately seek to attain.

In conclusion, may I congratulate you on the contribution that the Deputies are making to both these shorter-term and longer-term aims.

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