

SOVIET DRAFT

JOINT US-USSR COMMUNIQUE

By mutual agreement, President of the United States of America Ronald Reagan and General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, Mikhail S. Gorbachev held meetings in Geneva on November 19 and 20, 1985. Attending the meetings were:

On the American side: George P. Shultz, US Secretary of State;

On the Soviet side: E. A. Shevardnadze, Member of the Politbureau of the Central Committee of the CPSU, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the USSR;
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President Reagan and General Secretary Gorbachev had a useful, comprehensive and frank exchange of views on the fundamental issues of US-Soviet relations and the current international situation. Agreement was reached on some issues and remaining differences were defined more precisely. In this connection both sides reaffirmed the importance of a sustained dialogue based upon goodwill and expressed their readiness to bolster such a dialogue through practical deeds aimed at improving their relationship.

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Acknowledging differences in the socio-political systems of the United States and the Soviet Union and in their approaches to international problems, both sides recognize their over-riding mutual concern and obligation to preserve peace.

The President of the United States and the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the CPSU declared that the US and USSR will strive to overcome the present tension in their relationship, to reduce the danger of conflict and to move toward a more constructive international environment in which all countries are free to prosper and to compete peacefully.

The two sides confirmed the need to adhere to universally recognized norms of international law, international commitments and agreements, including the UN Charter and the Final Act of the Helsinki Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe.

I.

The United States and the Soviet Union recognize their special responsibilities for maintaining peace and avoiding confrontation. They discussed all aspects of the key security issues. The two sides agreed that the United States and the Soviet Union will base their relations on the fact that nuclear war cannot be won and must never be fought. Recognizing that any U.S.-Soviet conflict could have catastrophic consequences,

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they underlined the importance of preventing any war between them, conventional or nuclear. Consequently, they will not seek military superiority or infringe in any other way upon the legitimate security interests of each other.

To demonstrate their resolve to do everything possible to prevent nuclear war and, ultimately, to eliminate all nuclear arms everywhere, both sides agreed to take practical measures to reach agreements aimed at preventing an arms race in space and terminating it on Earth, at limiting and reducing nuclear arms and at strengthening strategic stability which is the agreed objective of the US-Soviet negotiations on nuclear and space arms.

[NST guidelines language here]

Each side noted its policy of refraining from undercutting existing strategic offensive arms agreements to the extent that the other side exercises comparable restraint and provided that the other side actively pursues arms reduction agreement in the Nuclear and Space Weapons Talks. This policy serves the interest of maintaining strategic stability. In this connection, each side emphasized the need for strict compliance with arms control agreements in all areas.

The two sides reaffirmed their commitment to strictly abide by the provisions of the 1972 Treaty on the Limitation of Anti-Ballistic Missile Systems.

The sides agreed to study the question of establishing centers to reduce the risk of nuclear confrontation [in the context of resolving the issues under consideration at the Geneva talks, within the framework of the talks themselves, or in the SCC]. They took satisfaction in such recent steps in this direction as the modernization of the US-Soviet hotline.

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President Reagan and General Secretary Gorbachev and President Reagan reaffirmed the commitment of the USA and the USSR to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and their interest in strengthening together with other countries the non-proliferation regime, and in further enhancing the effectiveness of the Treaty, inter alia by enlarging its membership.

They note with satisfaction the overall positive results of the recent Review Conference of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons.

The USA and the USSR reaffirm their commitment, assumed by them under the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, to pursue negotiations in good faith on matters of nuclear arms limitation and disarmament in accordance with Article VI of the Treaty.

The two sides plan to continue to promote the strengthening of the International Atomic Energy Agency and to support the activities of the Agency in implementing safeguards as well as in promoting the peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

They view positively the practice of regular US-Soviet consultations on non-proliferation of nuclear weapons which have been businesslike and constructive and express their intent to continue this practice in the future.

In the context of discussing security problems the two sides reaffirmed that they are in favor of a general and complete prohibition of chemical weapons and the destruction of existing stockpiles of such weapons. They agreed to accelerate efforts to conclude an international convention on this matter.

The two Sides agreed to intensify bilateral discussions on the level of experts on all the aspects of a chemical weapons ban, including the question of verification. They also agreed to initiate a dialogue on preventing the proliferation of chemical weapons.

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The two sides emphasized the importance they attach to the Vienna [CFE] negotiations [on the mutual reduction of armed forces and armaments in Central Europe] and expressed their willingness to work for positive results at the negotiations.

Attaching great importance to the Stockholm Conference on Confidence and Security Building Measures and Disarmament in Europe, and noting the progress made there, the two sides expressed their intention to facilitate, together with the other participating states, an early and successful completion of the conference. To this end, they reaffirmed the need for a concluding document which would both give specific expression and maximum effect to the principle of the non-use of force and include mutually acceptable confidence-building measures in the military field.

II.

In reviewing the key problems of the contemporary international situation President Reagan and General Secretary Gorbachev, proceeding from the recognition of the vital importance of the developments in Europe to international peace and stability, reaffirmed the importance of achieving the goals established in the Helsinki Final Act, and enhancing the process of building security and cooperation in Europe.

The two sides expressed their concern over the continued existence of tension and military conflict in certain areas of the world. Bearing in mind the existing differences between them in the approaches to regional problems and also recognizing the fact that the continued existence of tension pose a threat to their interests and the interests of international security, the USA and the USSR consider it important to act in such a manner so as to exercise mutual restraint and contribute to peaceful political settlement of conflict situations on the basis of strict respect for the right of countries and peoples to free independent development.

The sides discussed the circumstances in which acts of violence and terrorism arise. The two leaders condemned terrorism and agreed to seek ways to reduce this growing threat to the international community.

Recognizing that exchanges of views on regional issues on the expert level have proven useful, they agreed to hold such exchanges on a regular basis. They also agreed that regional

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III.

The President and General Secretary discussed the state and prospects for bilateral cooperation between the United States and the Soviet Union in various areas. The two sides expressed their intention to expand cultural, educational, scientific and technical exchange programs and people-to-people contacts and to develop trade and economic ties between the two countries.

The two leaders also noted with satisfaction that, in cooperation with the Government of Japan, the United States and the Soviet Union have agreed to a set of measures to promote safety on air routes in the North Pacific and are working [have worked out] out steps to implement them.

They acknowledged that delegations from the United States and the Soviet Union have begun negotiations on [have concluded] a civil aviation agreement. The two leaders expressed their desire to reach a mutually beneficial agreement at an early date. In this regard, an agreement was reached on the simultaneous opening of Consulates General in New York and Kiev, respectively.

The President of the United States and the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the CPSU attended the signing of the Agreement on Contacts and Exchanges in the Scientific, Educational and Cultural fields. (If the signing takes place.)

The two sides noted with satisfaction the growing number of useful exchanges between the two countries. They agreed on the utility of recent visits by heads of ministries and departments e.g., in the fields of agriculture, housing and environmental protection.

Both sides agreed to contribute to the preservation of the environment -- a global task -- through joint research and practical measures. In accordance with the existing US-Soviet agreement in this area, consultations will be held next year in Moscow and Washington on specific programs of cooperation.

The two leaders agreed on the advisability of new cooperative initiatives as follows: a joint program of cancer research, ... [Soviet side will provide additional initiatives from U.S. list]. They decided to instruct appropriate representatives and organizations in each country to examine these initiatives from a practical standpoint.

President Reagan and General Secretary Gorbachev agreed to initiate a new program of international cooperation to build a pilot thermo-nuclear reactor. Other countries are being invited to participate in this project.

IV.

The President of the United States and the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the CPSU set forth their respective views of principle on the issues of ensuring the exercise of human rights and fundamental freedoms. Mindful of the fundamental differences in their social systems and ideologies, and also of the fact that their ideological competition will continue, both sides nonetheless will conduct their affairs so as not to allow this to be an obstacle to improved relations.

Human Rights

Both sides agree that the questions involving individual citizens can and will be considered and resolved in the spirit of cooperation and without interference in the internal affairs of either of the two sides.

Human Rights

V.

President Reagan and General Secretary Gorbachev believe that the understanding on a number of decisive problems reached as a result of the talks in Geneva will give a constructive political impetus to the development of stable relations between the US and the USSR.

The President of the United States and the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the CPSU expressed their resolve to achieve in the shortest possible time concrete results in all of the areas discussed. This will contribute to the improvement of bilateral relations, to the strengthening of international security and to the betterment of the world situation as a whole. The two leaders intend to facilitate bilateral contact at various levels, inter alia, by regularizing the practice of meetings between the Secretary of State and Soviet Foreign Minister.

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The President and General Secretary Gorbachev agreed to meet again in the nearest future to review progress and coordinate the follow-up measures aimed at reaching the said goals.

The President of the United States thus accepted an invitation by the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the CPSU to visit the Soviet Union. For his part, the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the CPSU accepted an invitation by the President of the United States to visit the United States of America. Arrangements for and timing of the visits will be agreed upon through diplomatic channels.

*June
arrangements*