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REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS AND DECISIONS
ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AT ITS TENTH SPECIAL SESSION:
BILATERAL NUCLEAR-ARMS NEGOTIATIONS

GENERAL AND COMPLETE DISARMAMENT

REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE
STRENGTHENING OF INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

Letter dated 21 December 1984 from the Permanent Representative
of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to
the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of the communiqué issued by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the North Atlantic Council at Brussels on 14 December 1984.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the text circulated as an official document of the General Assembly under the items entitled "Review of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session: bilateral nuclear-arms negotiations", "General and complete disarmament" and "Review of the implementation of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security".

(Signed) John THOMSON

ANNEX

Communiqué issued by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the
North Atlantic Council at Brussels on 14 December 1984

The North Atlantic Council met in Ministerial session in Brussels on 13 and 14 December 1984. The Ministers agreed as follows:

1. The last few years have been difficult ones for East-West relations. The difficulties have not been of our making. In particular, the constant Soviet build-up of arms of all kinds requires us to maintain adequate forces to guarantee our collective security and to preserve the peace. The Alliance has continued to show strength and political solidarity, which remain the basis for our security.
2. The principles of the "Washington Statement on East-West Relations" of May 1984, which reaffirms our commitment to the Harmel Report, continue to guide the Alliance. Deterrence and defence, combined with arms control and disarmament, as well as constructive dialogue with the East, are for us integral parts of a coherent policy for stable peace. We remain ready to play our full part in a realistic effort to bring about an improved East-West relationship and increased co-operation. Regular bilateral high-level contacts can contribute to these objectives. We call upon the Soviet Union and its allies to adopt a similarly positive approach towards genuine détente.
3. We will maintain our close consultations on all matters of common concern. As we approach what may be a new phase in the arms control process, consultations on arms control and disarmament remain of particular importance.
4. We welcome the forthcoming meeting of Secretary Shultz and Foreign Minister Gromyko to discuss new negotiations on the whole range of questions concerning intercontinental and intermediate-range nuclear weapons and arms in outer space. Nuclear weapons should be substantially reduced by negotiations between the United States and the Soviet Union leading to equitable, verifiable and balanced agreements in which all concerned can have confidence.
5. The Allies concerned are willing to reverse, halt or modify the longer-range intermediate nuclear force (LRINF) deployments - including the removal and dismantling of missiles already deployed - upon achievement of a balanced, equitable and verifiable agreement calling for such action. In the absence of a concrete negotiated result obviating the need for such deployment, the Allies concerned emphasized their determination to continue the deployment of longer-range intermediate nuclear force missiles as scheduled. (Denmark and Greece reserve their positions on paragraph 5.)
6. The best approach to the problem of chemical weapons is the most radical: they should be eliminated world-wide. We remain deeply concerned about the use of such weapons. We call on the international community to work for the objective of a verifiable, comprehensive and global ban on chemical weapons. We attach high priority to the efforts to achieve this objective at the Conference on Disarmament in Geneva.

7. Confidence and security are complementary. In Stockholm (Conference on Confidence and Security-Building Measures and Disarmament in Europe), we seek agreement on militarily significant and concrete confidence- and security-building measures to be applied in the whole of Europe, thereby giving new effect and expression to the existing duty of all participating States to refrain from the threat or use of force. In Vienna, the Allies participating in the negotiations on mutual and balanced force reduction are actively working towards a verifiable agreement involving reductions of conventional forces to parity at lower levels, thereby enhancing confidence and improving military stability in Europe.

8. We remain firmly committed to the balanced development of the process of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe. The experts meeting on human rights which will take place in Ottawa in May 1985 will be one important step in this process. Full implementation by all participating States of the political undertakings made in Helsinki and Madrid is essential. The tenth anniversary of the signing of the Final Act in August 1985 should be commemorated by a meeting of the participating States at the political level, on the assumption that the international climate has made this appropriate. The process of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe could thereby receive a new impulse.

9. It is unacceptable that the Soviet Union, in disregard of its obligation not to threaten or use force, continues to violate the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Afghanistan.

10. Other issues also remain of deep concern to us. Recent events in Poland again demonstrate the need to achieve national reconciliation.

11. We, for our part, respect the sovereignty and independence of all States. We will remain vigilant and will consult on events outside the Treaty area which might threaten our common security.

12. The maintenance of a calm situation in and around Berlin remains an essential element in East-West relations. In this regard unimpeded traffic on all access routes is of fundamental importance.

13. We support the efforts of the Federal Republic of Germany to continue and develop dialogue and co-operation with the German Democratic Republic as a contribution to strengthening peace in Europe and to obtain further practical improvements to benefit the German people, particularly the Berliners. On the question of the division of Germany, we reaffirm our Washington statement of 31 May 1984.

14. We seek to improve the quality of the peace. As a community of free nations sharing common values, we remain fully committed to strengthening free institutions and to promoting stability, well-being and economic co-operation, in the spirit of article 2 of the North Atlantic Treaty.

15. We remain determined to prevent and suppress terrorism, which seeks to undermine stability and destroy our democratic institutions.

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16. The continued expansion of Soviet military potential remains a major allied concern. We are therefore determined to maintain a sufficient level of both conventional and nuclear forces to ensure the credibility of deterrence. Those allies participating in the military structure of the Alliance will work in particular to strengthen their conventional capabilities.

17. The security we seek for ourselves is not security at the expense of the Soviet Union or anyone else. None of our weapons will ever be used except in response to attack. Our Alliance is designed to prevent war and to preserve peace in freedom.

18. The spring 1985 meeting of the Council in Ministerial session will be held in Lisbon in June.

(The Minister for Foreign Affairs of Spain reserved his Government's position on the communiqué.)
