

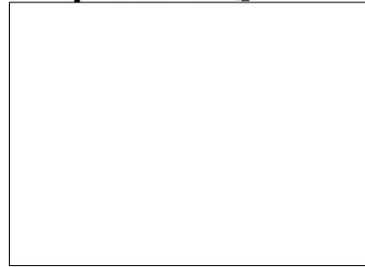
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[redacted]USSR: [redacted]
[redacted]**USSR-EUROPE: Tactics Toward Disarmament Conference**

Soviet and East European delegations in Helsinki cooperated with the West last Friday to adopt on schedule an agenda and timetable for the coming Conference on Disarmament in Europe. Soviet negotiators at the preparatory meeting have indicated that, once the conference opens in Stockholm on 17 January, the East intends to introduce contentious issues. These would include nuclear-free zones and an extension to the Atlantic of the area covered by some military confidence-building measures. A Soviet press handout on Friday in Helsinki confirmed that INF will be a major Eastern concern at Stockholm. [redacted]

Comment: The Soviets and their allies were unusually accommodating at Helsinki, evidently to court West European opinion as INF deployment dates approach. Eastern attempts to raise nuclear and other issues in the face of the opposition from the US and its allies will make the talks in Stockholm much more difficult. Moscow almost certainly will use the conference to exploit any West European discontent following the first INF deployments. [redacted]

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