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Press Statement by the NATO Spokesman

Ambassador Paul Nitze, Special Adviser to the President and to the Secretary of State on Arms Control Matters; Ambassador Maynard Glitman, Chief INF negotiator in Geneva for the Nuclear and Space Talks; and Charles Thomas, Deputy Assistant Secretary for European Affairs met this morning with the North Atlantic Council to outline the US position on issues which Secretary Shultz will discuss in Moscow next week and to solicit Allied views.

Ambassador Nitze spoke to the NAC on the broad range of arms control issues being discussed between the US and the USSR, and assured the Permanent Representatives that their views would be shared fully with Secretary Shultz prior to his Moscow meetings. He and Ambassador Glitman also discussed the INF negotiations and Allied concerns about Warsaw Pact superiority in short-range nuclear missile systems and conventional forces. Mr. Thomas presented the bilateral, human rights, and regional issues which Secretary Shultz will raise with the Soviet Foreign Minister.

The Permanent Representatives welcomed this opportunity to exchange views prior to the US-USSR consultations, and repeated their support for the position taken by the US on INF in the Geneva talks. Emphasizing the importance of the consultative process, Ambassador Nitze spoke of Secretary Shultz's scheduled briefing of the North Atlantic Council immediately after the conclusion of his discussions in Moscow, which was welcomed by Permanent Representatives.

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