

'Manifesto of the will for European defense'

What follows is the translated text of a statement circulated by a leading think tank in France, opposed to the INF treaty:

The "Cercle d'Etudes et de Reflexion sur la Defense" [Circle for Study and Reflection on Defense] has analyzed the American-Soviet disarmament agreement signed in Washington on December 8, 1987.

This agreement constitutes a step in the process of deflation of the two main world powers' nuclear arsenals.

However, the European democracies must see the immediate consequences of this agreement and draw the conclusions concerning their defense.

In fact:

1) This agreement does not modify in any way the global potential threat constituted by the Warsaw Pact countries against a *Free Europe*; this threat is characterized by the following facts:

- the overwhelming superiority of their military means, all categories taken into account,
- the subversive manipulation of democratic public opinions notably through the encouragement of a pacifism aimed more at achieving total demobilization than any disarmament as such,
- the existence within the borders of those countries with totalitarian political systems which do not respect, nor guarantee, human rights.

2) This threat has been reinforced by the reduction of Western means of defense which has been the result of the

above-mentioned agreement. For these reasons, the CERD, which had already come to conclusions concerning the possibility of developing the will for a European defense, declares today the imperative and immediate need for this development.

CERD bases this affirmation on the following facts:

- There exist specifically European interests and fundamental values,
- There exist European institutions at the economic, industrial, and monetary levels which attest to the reality of the European construction,

CERD recommends urgently:

1) an emergency meeting of heads of governments as well as foreign affairs and defense ministers, of the seven member states of the Western European Union to define, on the one hand, a voluntarist attitude toward the development of a more autonomous defense of a *Free Europe*, and on the other, the determination of the practical and realizable steps that can be taken in the very short term in order to develop such a defense,

2) a "European summit" which would bring together the heads of state and of government as well as the ministers of foreign affairs and of defense of the 12 member-countries members of the EEC in order to revise the Rome Treaty to allow for the integration of defense, just as is presently the case with economics. . . .

3) the immediate launching of a study, at the level of the community, of a strategic project for *European Space Surveillance*.

CERD declares that the construction of a *United Europe* is urgent and for that reason public opinion must be adequately informed in order to participate actively. CERD regrets that so little echo was given to the common declaration published at The Hague last Oct. 27, 1987, where the member countries of the Western European Union developed clearly the basis for a European doctrine of defense which should be applied now as quickly as possible.

matic experts," were "far more extensive than had been expected," and "confounded predictions that the Anglo-French summit would be a largely symbolic affair." *EIR's* London sources report that the word from the British Ministry of Defense is that there is now "no limit to the possibilities for Anglo-French cooperation."

While the Anglo-French discussions are accompanied by much speculation about whether or not France is being pressured to join NATO, that is actually not the key question for the coming weeks. If the West is to avoid strategic catastrophe, European defense coordination must to be used as a lever, to increase the American commitment for defense of Europe. This is not a question of abstract "NATO structures" and so on, but of really upgraded transatlantic cooperation,

contrary to the trends of the Reykjavik-INF era.

This requires the toppling of the INF treaty, via its non-ratification by the U.S. Senate: All rumors, gossip, and threats, that such an option is "taboo," or that loyalty to President Reagan or to some impotent abstract principles precludes non-ratification, should be stopped.

Lastly, the countries of the West, including Britain, France, and West Germany, policy, and launch an economic mobilization, to produce the wealth that makes a Western military build-up possible. Without this, the irony in Europe remains that certain of the new weapons systems being discussed in the context of modernization plans, lack the necessary funding. This reality is not unknown to the Ogarkov military crowd in Moscow.